FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi military spokesmen, in statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, announced that Iraqi planes raided Ilam, Salehabad, Esfahan, Tabriz, Baneh, and Marivan the morning of 28 March after strikes against Tehran, Qazvin, and Kashan late on 27 March. IRNA reported over 200 casualties as a result of the Iraqi attack on residential areas in southeastern Tehran the night of 27 March. In response to the Iraqi air raids Iranian artillery units shelled Basra and other southern Iraqi border towns on 27 March, according to Tehran radio. Meanwhile, Damascus "sources" cited by IRNA asserted that 130 Iraqi military personnel were killed in the 25 March Iranian missile attack against Baghdad.

In an interview with the newspaper *TEHRAN TIMES*, reported by IRNA, an Iranian Foreign Ministry official said Iran's demands for ending the war are: The "elimination" of the Iraqi regime; 350 billion dollars in war reparations; and the return of 200,000 Iraqi "refugees" to Iraq. The official noted that the earlier demand that Iraq vacate occupied Iranian territory has been omitted.

Sudan

Khartoum Demonstrations — Three were killed and an "undetermined number" were wounded when police opened fire during "violent demonstrations" in central Khartoum on 27 March, according to AFP reports. The demonstrations followed President Ja'far Numayri's departure for an official visit to the United States, the agency noted. Muslim Brotherhood "infiltrators" played a role in organizing the groups of students that staged the "small demonstration" and police were "forced to intervene" when the "infiltrated elements" started attacking public and private property, SUNA asserted. Later the agency reported that the situation in Khartoum was "completely calm" and that Omdurman's Islamic University was closed until July.

National Unity Call — At the first meeting of the Higher National Peace Committee, the committee's chairman called on the "brother outlaws" to adopt the principle of dialogue in the interest of national unity, SUNA related. Numayri's decision to form the committee showed his determination to settle differences among Sudanese citizens, the peace committee chairman stated. However, a Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) radio commentator reiterated that the SPLA is not interested in talking to Numayri's "decaying regime." Describing the peace committee as a "panic committee," SPLA officers cited by the radio maintained that recognizing the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement's (SPLM) political power, opposition parties have begun "secret talks" with the SPLM.

Lebanon

Gordon Nash, the British metallurgist kidnapped in Beirut on 14 March, was released on the night of 26-27 March, the British Foreign Office disclosed in a statement reported by AFP. Another kidnapped Briton, UNRWA employee Alec Colett, will be released soon, according to a UN official cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon. Meanwhile, a UN spokesman announced the United Nations' decision to withdraw all its nonessential employees from Lebanon, Voice of Lebanon radio noted.

Syria

Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm has been authorized to form a new government, according to a source in Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo.

Afghanistan

A 23 March bomb attack on a Soviet convoy near the Salang Pass caused "hundreds" of Soviet casualties as the blast detonated a chain reaction among ammunition trucks, Panjsher Valley mujahidin commander Ahmad Shah Masud claimed in a message cited by AFP.

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'Arafat Says Joint Delegation Will Meet U.S. Officials

JN271943 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has stated that it has been agreed that a joint delegation representing the Jordanian Government and the PLO will meet with U.S. Government officials. He said: His Majesty King Husayn and I have reached this agreement. In an interview with GDR television, 'Arafat added: If the United States wants to deal with non-PLO Palestinians, let it try. It will not have any success. The PLO is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. He also said: I appreciate Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's efforts to achieve a settlement in the region, but I will only accept what His Majesty King Husayn and I have agreed on.

'Arafat also said that the current proposals will open the way to the United Nations and the Security Council for all parties concerned, so that unconditional negotiations can be held under the canopy of international legitimacy. Asked if the PLO accepted all of the UN resolutions, including Resolution 242, which recognizes Israel, and why the PLO does not frankly recognize Israel, 'Arafat said: This is because we simply want the others to recognize us. We are the homeless victims.

Further on Interview

JN272155 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] PLO Chairman Mr Yasir 'Arafat called for Middle East peace talks to be held under a United Nations umbrella. 'Arafat was speaking in a television interview conducted with him in Tunis.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified interviewer] The Egyptian president has proposed that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation goes to Washington to talk,...

['Arafat, interrupting] Including the PLO?

[Interviewer] President Mubarak has said including the PLO. The Americans have said not as long as the PLO does not recognize the existence of Israel and do not denounce terrorism.

['Arafat] The agreement has to be a joint — joint — delegation from the Jordanian Government and from the PLO, on equal footing.

[Interviewer] And you insist on that point?

['Arafat] No doubt.

[Interviewer] Should the members of the PLO [words indistinct] the delegation?

['Arafat] This is what has — what me and King Husayn had signed. Both of us. You remember?

[Interviewer] Yes, I remember. So you insist that the members of this delegation ...

['Arafat, interrupting] I am not insisting.

[Interviewer, continuing] ... must be PLO members?

['Arafat] This is what had been accepted between me and his majesty.

[Interviewer] Yes, but President Mubarak was a bit ambiguous on who should be the Palestinian [word indistinct].

['Arafat] He did not consult me.

[Interviewer] So it was a proposal of his own?

['Arafat] I think so.

[Interviewer] And you do not support it?

['Arafat] I respect completely his efforts and we are appreciating it too much, but definitely can't accept his proposals.

[Interviewer] We've heard ...

['Arafat, continuing] I am accepting what I had agreed upon between me and His Majesty King Husayn.

[Interviewer] And that's a delegation with PLO members?

['Arafat] Yes.

[Interviewer] Because the American foreign secretary Mr Shultz said the other day that Washington now, after all, and after Israel has accepted the idea, is willing to receive a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, but without PLO members. That means there will be no ...

['Arafat, interrupting] If they want to deal without the PLO, they can do it. Let them try. But I will not accept it.

[Interviewer] But what will happen then?

['Arafat] Okay, if they can deal it, why are they waiting for it. They know that they can't deal [words indistinct] excluding the PLO. PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

We are the most important figure in the Middle East equation. It is not easy to overjump us.

[Interviewer] But does that mean, Mr Chairman, you don't think there will come any positive results out of the present peace initiatives going on?

['Arafat] Who said it?

[Interviewer] I am asking.

['Arafat] No. I am sure that we will find a solution, by means or other.

[Interviewer] Yes, but now ...

['Arafat, interrupting] Now, and I am offering this offer. Why not all of us go to the United Nations, to the Security Council — all of us, without preconditions — under the UN umbrella, under the international legality?

[Interviewer] The accord that you made recently with King Husayn of Jordan. In that accord you declare your willingness to abide to all UN resolutions. One of these resolutions is the partition plan from 1947 in which Israel is recognized. Why do you hesistate, then, to say that we recognize the State of Israel?

['Arafat] Simple. We want our rights to be recognized. We are the victims. I am homeless, stateless, even without an identity card. Give me my rights, and then ask your question. [end recording]

'Arafat Receives GDR Minister in Tunis

JN271800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met in Tunis yesterday with the GDR minister of state for foreign affairs. Our radio correspondent has learned that the discussion during the meeting dealt with the latest Palestinian, Arab, and international developments. Our correspondent has also learned that brother leader Abu 'Ammar asked the German minister to convey a message to GDR President Erich Honecker on the developments of the Palestine question and bilateral relations. The GDR minister of state for foreign affairs affirmed his country's absolute support for the PLO, its legitimate leadership, and its freedom to adopt decisions it deems suitable in the interest of the Palestinian people.

LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS Interviews Khalid al-Hasan

PM271207 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 25 Mar 85 p 21

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan by Dominique Lagarde in Paris — date not given]

[Text] *LE QUOTIDIEN*: How do you interpret the polite refusal given by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak when he asked the Americans to meet a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and also the progress observed in Washington in the past few days?

Khalid al-Hasan: I think that Mr Mubarak should have realized that a superpower never agrees openly to a suggestion made publicly by another country. The Egyptian head of state ought to have made his proposal public. Second, Mubarak's U.S. visit was also aimed at obtaining increased U.S. aid for Egypt, and the Americans are not in the habit of replying favorably to requests from those in weak positions.

It is nonetheless possible that the Americans will change their attitude, at least on the tactical level, if they think the Arabs are serious in their support for Amman. This response relates, of course, to the idea put forward by Egypt for a meeting between American representatives and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, and not to what was called the "Mubarak initiative," on which we were not consulted and which we rejected.

LE QUOTIDIEN: With regard to this plan for a meeting between their representatives and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the Americans repeated that they did not want to negotiate with the PLO. Is the PLO prepared to accept a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation whose Palestinian members do not belong to its official bodies?

Khalid al-Hasan: What is important for us is that these Palestinians, whoever they are, should be appointed by the PLO. If the delegation is appointed by the PLO we will be satisfied. We do not think it in our interest at this stage to secure a meeting between PLO leaders and the Americans. We are not asking this of them and the only thing that matters to us is to be able to choose the Palestinian delegate ourselves.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Another ambiguity in the Amman agreement relates to Resolution 242, which is not explicitly mentioned in the text. What precisely is your position on this point?

Khalid al-Hasan: The Amman agreement is aimed at securing "peace in exchange for territories" on the basis of "all the UN resolutions, including the Security Council decisions."

LE QUOTIDIEN: Resolution 242 is one of them....

Khalid al-Hasan: It is one of them, but in this case 242 is not the one we rejected. In this case 242 is one of a "basket" of resolutions and decisions which, together, correspond to our objectives and decisions which, together, correspond to our objectives as defined by our parliament. The problem which 242 poses for us is that it does not deal with the Palestinian problem or the Palestinian people, but simply with the consequences of the 1967 war. It had to be supplemented if it were to become an adequate mechanism for the Palestinians. We tried to achieve this several times, but those attempts were blocked by American and British vetos. The Franco-Egyptian draft resolution, for instance, was a response to our concerns, but the Americans wanted nothing to do with it. That is why the Amman agreement refers to a "basket" or "package deal." It is this "basket" which has become our term of reference for opening peace negotiations.

LE QUOTIDIEN: The Americans are urging you to accept Resolution 242 because it would constitute recognition of Israel's existence.

The PLO has implicitly recognized Israel's existence several times. So why not do so explicitly, outside even Resolution 242?

Khalid al-Hasan: The 1947 resolution on the partition of Palestine, which we have accepted, is still much clearer than Resolution 242 on Israel's existence, since it makes provision for the establishment of two states in the same country. There is no peace without justice. It must be either complete justice or the justice of international law.

LE QUOTIDIEN: And that means two states....

Khalid al-Hasan: And that means two states.... We know that, if we ask for total justice, the problem cannot be solved. It can now be solved by international law and that is why this is our term of reference. It is all very clear.

LE QUOTIDIEN: Why do you reject the idea of direct negotiations with Israel and advocate an international conference in the Amman agreement?

Khalid al-Hasan: The Israelis will yield nothing unless forced to do so and we cannot force them. So forces outside the region must put pressure on them. That is why we mentioned as participants in this conference the five permanent members of the Security Council. In addition, if peace is to be based on international law, the body which lays down that law must participate in it. It was the United Nations which created the problem and Israel's very existence is based on UN resolutions. It is in this framework, therefore, that the problem must be solved.

LE QUOTIDIEN: The Amman agreement makes provision for a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. Is it a confederation between two independent states or the creation of a single sovereign entity?

Khalid al-Hasan: In international law a confederation is a union between two sovereign states. Otherwise it is a federation. The Palestinian state will exist before the confederation, even if the confederation follows independence by a little as 5 minutes.

LE QUOTIDIEN: The Syrian foreign minister said recently that he did not think the time was right for reviving a peace process, because the Arabs are not at present in a position of strength for negotiating. What do you think?

Khalid al-Hasan: I completely disagree with the logic of that argument. It is not simply by counting the soldiers, tanks, or aircraft that you define a balance of forces. If the Arabs show the Americans that they are serious, the Americans will change their position. This Amman agreement will be nothing without Arab solidarity. Because it is international, the Palestinian cause is by nature dependent on the mechanisms of international policy, which are based on interests. We Palestinians have no interests to negotiate at international level. It is the Arabs who hold all the cards in that sphere. When I say that the Arabs must show that they are serious, it means that they must use their cards in their relations with other states to restore the Palestinian people's national rights, respecting international law.

LE QUOTIDIEN: And do you think they are prepared to do so?

Khalid al-Hasan: I am not sure, but we must try.

Al-Wazir on Ansar Detainees, Lebanese Operations

JN271758 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has confirmed that 650 Palestinians are still detained in Ansar camp in occupied southern Lebanon. He said in press statements published in Kuwait yesterday that 60 Palestinian strugglers were martyred in the past 5 months in armed operations against the Zionist occupation forces in southern Lebanon. He added: We have to defend ourselves against certain Lebanese factions that are hostile to the PLO.

PLO's Ahmad Praises Accord With Jordan

JN271258 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Amman — 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, PLO Executive Committee member and secretary general of the Arab Liberation Front, has praised the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. He said that the statements made by His Majesty King Husayn and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri assert Jordan's adherence to the clauses of the agreement, as well as the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people. This came during Ahmad's visit today to the Badir Forces Command and his meeting with the commander and officers of the Palestine Liberation Army in Jordan. 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad said: The spirit of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement stems from the resolutions adopted by the PNC sessions since 1974 and until now. Ahmad attacked those who criticized the agreement and called on them to review its clauses objectively and without fanaticism. Ahmad also praised the victories achieved by the Iraqi Army in its recent battles on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

PLO Source Reacts to Al-Asad's Comments on Israel

GF271834 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] A PLO official source commented yesterday on a statement made by President Hafiz al-Asad to the *WASHINGTON POST* in its issue of the day before yesterday. In this statement he said: Why should Israel grant the Palestinians the land of Palestine while they are not an obstacle to Israel [sentence as heard]. Neither is Israel desirous of war nor the Palestinians capable of making peace with Israel if it wants to establish peace in the region.

It seems that President Hafiz al-Asad has forgotten the glorious history of the Palestinian armed struggle [words indistinct] a struggle that was demonstrated by the (?forces) of the Palestinian revolution in the war of steadfastness who fought alongside their Lebanese allies for 88 days in Beirut. Afterward, the revolution continued its heroic attrition within the framework of our joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces. These forces are still demonstrating the greatest forms of heroism in southern Lebanon and Al-Biqa' through inflicting continuous defeats on the enemy forces that have so far failed to oppress the struggle will of our people and our nation despite the cease-fire agreement that President al-Asad signed with U.S. envoy Philip Habib 4 days after the start of the fighting in 1982.

The source pointed out that it is regretful that what President al-Asad states supports the Israeli view on peace with the Arabs, with the exclusion of the Palestinians and the central issue of the Arab nation. It seems that this is a renewal of the agreement

hammered out between the envoys of the Syrian regime and Sharon in Washington in 1983 and in Beirut 1984. As for President al-Asad's view on the peace issue, we would like to congratulate him for this role — in the business of slave trade — which he is undertaking before the Israelis and their leaders — the Americans — since he is the only one capable of entrenching peace and ensuring the security of the Zionist enemy.

PLO Statement Denounces National Salvation Front

GF271726 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 85

["Text" of statement issued by PLO "official source" — date and place not given]

[Text] The establishment of the so-called National Salvation Front comprising some of the Palestinian factions was proclaimed in Damascus the day before yesterday. The PLO and its leadership, which followed the repeated statements on the imminent announcement of this front, had hoped that these brothers would, at the last minute, assess the gravity of this step which others (?forced) them to undertake. These people should accept the hand extended to them by the PLO leadership in order to reinforce PLO unity which is confronting one of the gravest stages of the Zionist plots.

Our Palestinian people, who are rallying around the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, and around their legitimate leadership, look with surprise at this step that is opposed to their aspirations and goals. The people will stand up in confrontation of this step through further rallying around their legitimate leadership. As this step does not represent the will of any of the Palestinian people, it certainly does not express the bases of the organizations whose leaders approved of. [sentence as heard] Such a step will be widely denounced by the masses of our people both inside and outside the occupied territories. This will be denounced on a larger scale by the Arab masses and their national and progressive powers, in addition to progressive international public opinion.

Voice of PLO Rejects Use of PLO 'Substitutes'

JN272039 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1554 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, in an attempt to circumvent the PLO's sole representation of the Palestinian people and to find substitutes for this organization that can sit at the negotiating table with the Zionists and the Americans, U.S. President Reagan made his famous statement that the United States welcomes a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, but that it rejects only PLO members being included in this delegation. Certain parties have magnified this U.S. move to the point of ignoring the PLO and citing the names of Palestinians outside the PLO as members of the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Undoubtedly, these deceptive and misleading attempts contradict the substance of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the resolutions of the 17th PNC session. The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement clearly provides that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that these people have the right to determine their own destiny and to establish their Palestinian state. Furthermore, the resolution of the 17th PNC session concerning the mechanism for political action provides the following: The council believes that achieving a just solution to the Palestine question and the Middle East problem must be based on guaranteeing our national rights to return, to self-determination, and to an independent Palestinian state on our Palestinian national soil.

The council also believes that the appropriate framework for achieving this solution is the convocation of an international conference under the UN flag and through the Security Council with all the parties concerned, including the PLO, participating on an equal footing and on the basis of UN resolutions dealing with the Palestine question. In this respect, the council affirms its rejection of the Camp David accords, autonomy, the Reagan doctrines, and the plans and decisions that do not guarantee our right to return, to self-determination, and to an independent Palestinian state.

Therefore, the provisions of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the resolutions of the 17th PNC session are very clear: The PLO is the main party that is authorized to decide on the Palestinians' destiny and national rights. All attempts to seek substitutes to this organization are categorically rejected, and are no more than a Zionist-imperialist plot to discount the Palestinians from the conflict and to delete the PLO from this conflict's equation. U.S. imperialism is spearheading this plot, by virtue of its historical enmity to the Palestinian people and the PLO, which the U.S. political dictionary still considers to be a terrorist organization that must be fought and discounted from any political settlement in the region.

The objective of the United States and Zionism is to produce subservient substitutes that can accept the U.S.-Zionist peace and completely overlook the Palestinian people's historical rights, as envisaged in the autonomy and civilian administration plans, the Reagan plan, and the Camp David accords. All these plans were doomed to failure because they ignored the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. Our people know how to foil all these plots — by rallying more and more around the organization and by escalating armed struggle — until the whole world is compelled to heed our voice and to succumb to our people's demands to return, self-determination, and an independent Palestinian state.

DFLP Charges New Front Causes 'Fragmentation'

JN272011 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] After the formation of the Palestine National Salvation Front, which has not included the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] or the Palestine Communist Party, observers in Damascus have been awaiting the DFLP's reaction to the formation of this front. They have been wondering what reasons prompted DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah to take his present position, particularly following reports that he may

not want to break his ties despite his opposition to the Amman agreement.

The DFLP's position became clear today when DFLP Assistant Secretary General Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh announced that forming organizations that are parallel to the PLO will not at present serve the task of renewing the political and popular struggles to confront and cancel the Amman agreement. Such a step, he said, diverts attention from the Palestinian people's central task and increases the fragmentation of the Palestinian situation. He added that the DFLP will continue to work to foil the Amman agreement and restore PLO unity.

Habash, Al-Fahum Meet With USSR Ambassador

JN280658 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] In Damascus, the USSR ambassador has met with a Palestine National Salvation Front delegation under George Habash and Khalid al-Fahum. A PFLP statement said that the delegation explained to the USSR ambassador the reasons for establishing the front which, according to the statement, constitutes a temporary framework until the PLO resumes its national course and its political program based on PNC resolutions.

The USSR ambassador reiterated to the delegation his country's support for the Palestinian people's rights to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state. He promised to communicate the front's viewpoint to the USSR leadership.

Zionist Patrol, Headquarters in Tyre Attacked

JN271811 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1617 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces continue to escalate their armed operations against the personnel and equipment of the Zionist occupation forces and their agents in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment.

The heroes of the joint forces used automatic weapons and rockets to attack a Zionist military patrol as it was passing near Burj al-Shamali Camp in Tyre. A military half-track was destroyed and another was damaged. Their occupants were killed or wounded. The heroes of the joint forces have also fired katyushas at the command headquarters of the Zionist occupation forces in Tyre, heavily damaging the headquarters and killing or wounding several Zionist soldiers.

The heroes of the joint forces used automatic weapons and rockets to attack a military roadblock belonging to the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon in Al-Nabatiyah in southern Lebanon. Several elements at the agent roadblock were killed or wounded.

The Zionist military spokesman admitted all three operations. However he did not disclose his losses or those of his agents. He said that his forces and elements from the agent militias immediately mounted large-scale search and arrest campaigns to track down the heroes of the joint forces. But all this was in vain.

Arab League Discusses Israeli Boycott, PLO Passports

LD272218 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1054 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tunis 27 Mar (KUNA) — The council of the Arab League states today resumed the meetings of the 83d ordinary session which opened here at noon last Monday [25 March]. The council in its closed meeting last night, limited to the heads of delegations, decided to delegate the Arab ambassadors in the United States and the European countries through the General Secretariat of the Arab League to draw the necessary studies for the two subjects of setting up a joint commercial zone between the United States and the Zionist entity and also (?the responsibility) of some European countries regarding circumventing the decisions of the Arab boycott of the Zionist enemy to be submitted to the forthcoming League council so it can adopt the necessary decisions regarding them.

The council also decided to refer the subject of the Zionist occupation authorities opening a road in the occupied West Bank, after sequestering these lands from their Arab owners, to the Arab group at the United Nations to adopt the necessary steps regarding this within the framework of the United Nations.

The heads of the participating delegations in the present session of the council agreed that each Arab country should have the freedom to fix the amount of assistance it will extend to the countries of the African coast suffering from drought.

When it discussed the subject of issuing a special passport for Palestinians, the council decided to set up a special committee to contact the Palestinians where they are to be found in the Arab countries and to seek their views about issuing a special passport.

The evening's meetings of the council witnessed what could be described as a "verbal exchange" between the leader of the Sudanese delegation and some leaders of other Arab delegations when the subject of the flight of the Ethiopian Falasha Jews to Israel across Sudanese territory was discussed. However, the intervention of the heads of other Arab delegations prevented the widening of this verbal exchange which caused the session to end quickly.

However, the head of the Sudanese delegation declared his insistence on submitting the subject once again at today's meeting, a matter which stems from "the soundness of Sudan's posture, government, and people vis-a-vis the tendentious rumors which seek to split this Arab region from the other sister Arab countries."

GULF AFFAIRS

UAE, Kuwaiti Air Forces End Joint Exercises

GF271950 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1740 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 27 Mar (WAM) — The joint air force exercises between the UAE Air Force and the Kuwaiti Air Force concluded today at Al-Dafrah Airbase in Abu Dhabi.

Brigadier General Sayf Mubarak said: "The military exercise that lasted several days and concluded today was successfully and efficiently executed in all its stages. It attained all its goals. Our pilots and technicians in the two fraternal airforces proved their elevated fighting skills."

BAHRAIN

Heir Apparent Leaves for Riyadh 27 March

GF270902 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0817 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 27 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, left Manama today for Riyadh on a brief visit to Saudi Arabia at the invitation of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Foreign Minister Returns from Arab League Meeting

GF280700 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah returned home from Tunis early today after leading Bahrain's delegation to the Arab League's 83d session at the foreign ministers level which was held at Arab League headquarters in Tunis.

Al-Jabir Comments on Arab League Session

LD280025 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned from Tunisia tonight after paying an official visit to Algeria lasting 2 days and attending the ordinary session of the Arab League Council in Tunis.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said on his return that on the instructions of the heads of states of GCC members at their recent summit conference in Kuwait, he and his Saudi counterpart, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal paid a visit to Algeria carrying messages pertaining to the conditions in the Gulf and the Iraq-Iran war and pointing out the threat to the peace in the area posed by this war which could act as a direct cause for intervention by the superpowers — a prospect which the area countries strongly reject.

He said that the visit coincided with the escalation of the war. He added that this escalation has pained us all and threatened the expansion of this bitter war.

In his speech, carried by KUNA, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that he and Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met with the Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and conveyed to him the message of his brothers the king and president. He said we have met with full understanding and response to our mission from him. He added: We have also discussed with him Arab and bilateral issues and completed our discussions with our colleague, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the Algerian foreign minister.

On the 83d session of the Arab League Council held in Tunisia from 15-17 March, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that holding the session coincided with the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Arab League. The members praised the role played by the league in unifying Arab ranks. The agenda was full of important topics which occupied the attention of the participants. The report of the 7-member committee entrusted with following up developments in the war between Iraq and Iran was one of the most important topics discussed and resolutions issued on the war were supported by the majority of the delegations. The question of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and the inhumane and arbitrary practices which violate all norms and charters, were among the important topics discussed; suitable resolutions and recommendations were adopted regarding them.

The participants also discussed the ministerial meeting scheduled to take place between the Arab and African sides and which will undertake the task of preparing for the Arab-African summit conference. Adequate decisions were also taken in this regard. The conference continued to discuss topics on its agenda and adequate resolutions are expected to be taken.

PRC Oil Minister Comments on Cooperation Talks

LD272205 Kuwait KUNA in English 1933 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Kuwait, March 26 (KUNA) — Chinese Oil Minister Tang Ke expressed satisfaction over his visit to Kuwait, saying the agreements he has reached here are "very practical."

Talking to reporters before departure at the end of a four-day official visit, Tang said he held talks on oil industry cooperation mainly in oil exploration. He stated that Kuwait Oil Ministry will dispatch a technical team to China "to further explore possibilities for potential (on-shore) cooperation."

Commenting on cooperation in off-shore fields, Tang said "we are working hard to be prepared for a joint off-shore project." He added that the Kuwaiti side has made "very practical and very useful" proposals for future cooperation in this aspect. "So we think, from our point of view, it is very ideal," he said about Kuwait's proposal. He did not elaborate.

The Chinese minister who met H.H. the amir and H.H. the crown prince and prime minister during this visit, said they expressed support for bolstering cooperation between the two countries in all fields.

Tang and the accompanying delegation were seen off by Oil and Industry Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah and China's ambassador to Kuwait.

OMAN

Foreign Minister Returns From Tunisia 27 March

GF271656 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to the country this evening after participating in the 83d session of the Arab League Council of Ministers.

QATAR

Foreign Minister Returns From Tunis 27 Mar

GF271928 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1845 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Doha, 27 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Doha today from Tunis. Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani had led the Qatari delegation to the meetings of the 83d session of the Arab League Council.

SAUDI ARABIA

Bahraini Heir Apparent Arrives for Visit 27 Mar

GF271030 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0908 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 27 Mar (SPA) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifan, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force, arrived in Riyadh today to attend the annual great camel race which will be held today under the patronage of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Gambian President Ends Visit to Jeddah

GF271144 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0940 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 27 Mar (SPA) — Gambian President Dawda Jawara left Jeddah today for Sanaa following a visit to the Kingdom which lasted for several days during which he met with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Agriculture Minister Meets New Zealand Counterpart

GF270900 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0740 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 27 Mar (SPA) — 'Abd al-Rahman al-Shaykh, the minister of agriculture and water, met today with New Zealand Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Colin Moyle who is visiting the Kingdom.

Vice Defense Minister on Balanced Economic Plans

GF280702 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, vice minister of defense and aviation, has emphasized His Majesty King Fahd's eagerness to continue the march of balanced economic development to improve the Kingdom's revenues and reduce dependence on exhaustible resources.

In an address to the second conference of Saudi businessmen yesterday, his highness said: The industrialized countries' technological development has widened the gap between them and the developing countries. He affirmed the need to bridge this gap through the developing countries' possessing, developing and using technology. He pointed out that the balanced economy program, which is being undertaken at the behest of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, aims at transferring advanced technology to the Kingdom by setting up modern industry with the contribution of major international companies carrying out the air force command, control, and communications project — Dir' al-Salam [peace shield].

In his address, Prince 'Abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz noted that the Ministry of Defense and Aviation has studied the proper way to implement the balanced economy in the Kingdom after studying the experiences of other countries in order to transfer the technology to the Kingdom and expand industry to serve the Kingdom's general good and fulfill the development plan goals.

His highness said that the committee for the Defense and Aviation Ministry's balanced economy has been formed and that this committee includes representatives for the Ministries of Finance and National Economy; Planning; Trade; and Industry and Electricity. He said the committee has put forward the basic conditions for the proper contractors for the Dir' al-Salam project and that these conditions have been fixed in a document to guide contractors.

UAE

Daily Condemns French-Israeli Nuclear Cooperation

GF271326 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0550 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Mar (WAM) — The newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* has condemned the French-Israeli agreement which was recently announced to supply Israel with two French nuclear reactors at a value of $3 billion.

In its editorial today, the paper stressed the seriousness of this agreement as it includes advanced methods to support the power of Zionist aggression in the heart of the Arab region, and will provide qualitative superiority to the Zionist entity over the Arabs who lack such reactors with the exception of Iraq whose nuclear reactor was destroyed by Israel in June 1981.

The paper said that this agreement indicates the extent of France's desire to make the strategic military balance favor Israel to the exclusion of the other Middle East countries, which

causes a terrible imbalance that ruins all the "possibilities of settlement" which France talks about.

The paper called for a comprehensive [words indistinct] in order to make the French Government realize that its vital interests will certainly be harmed in light of its bias toward Zionist aggression. The paper said: "It is imperative to deal with France as a previous ally to Israel as it helped it to produce its first experimental atomic bomb in 1967 and at a later time helped it to produce a thermonuclear bomb. In 1956 it signed with it an agreement providing for the construction of the first nuclear reactor in 'Dimona' in the Negev desert in occupied Palestine."

The paper concluded by saying: "De Gaulle's France" will not return and over-optimism leads to further frustration and bitterness as usual.

PDRY

Iranian Envoy Delivers Message to Prime Minister

GF272000 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Iranian Ambassador in Aden Hasan Aminian today met with the new chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers, Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas. During the meeting, the ambassador delivered a congratulatory message from Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi on the occasion of the assumption of his new post.

During the meeting, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran gave a briefing on Iran's stance on the war that was imposed on the Islamic revolution, recent developments in the war, and the shelling of residential areas by the Zionist Iraqi regime. He said: Our people are very patient and steadfast. They are facing injustice and defending themselves with firmness. Mr Aminian said: We had saved our missiles and arms to confront Zionism, but we regret that Saddam has forced us to use them now.

He pointed out the claims made by Saddam's regime and asked: Are the violations of the 12 June agreement on shelling residential areas, the use of chemical weapons, and the threats to civil aviation acts examples of preserving peace?

The chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers affirmed the expansion and development of bilateral relations. He said: Our stance toward the Islamic revolution is clear and known. This revolution evicted imperialism from its biggest base in the region and rose to aid and support the oppressed people in the region which resulted in the enmity of the region's reactionaries toward Iran.

YAR

Gambian President Jawara Arrives in Sanaa 27 Mar

GF271320 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Dawda Jawara, president of Gambia and chairman of the Islamic Good Office Committee and head of a high-level delegation, arrived at Sanaa International Airport this morning on an official visit.

Joint Talks Held

GF280600 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] A session of official talks between the YAR and Gambia was held at the presidential house at 1930 today.

The talks were led by Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and Dawda Jawara, president of the Gambian Republic and chairman of the Islamic Good Offices Committee.

At the outset of the session, the brother president welcomed the Gambian president and hoped that his visit would further relations between the two countries to serve their joint interests and the good of the Muslim nation.

The Gambian president then expressed his and the accompanying delegation's deep thanks for the good hospitality. He emphasized his country's eagerness to strengthen the fraternal relations between the two countries.

The talks focused on the overall Islamic and international issues as well as relations between the two countries. SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the two sides' views on all issues which were discussed were identical.

Attending the talks on the YAR side were Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee, and 'Ali Muhammad al-Ansi, director of the President's Office.

On the Gambian side, they were attended by Lamin Kiti Jabang, minister of external affairs, and Dr Omar Jah, the Gambian ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Mubarak, Zaire's Mobutu Sign Joint Communique

NC271108 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) — Egypt and Zaire have affirmed that a just and lasting solution of the Middle East conflict must include a recognition of the inalienable and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination.

In a joint communique signed today by Presidents Husni Mubarak and Mobutu Sese Sekou, the two leaders condemned all violations of the principle of the impermissibility of seizing lands by force, based on the principles of international law and the Geneva and UN conventions.

Egypt and Zaire addressed a joint appeal for an end to the fighting between Iraq and Iran, particularly the shelling of residential areas and cities. The two countries stressed the need to reach a just and peaceful solution of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict through negotiations.

In this regard, the two leaders reaffirmed the importance of the role of the Nonaligned Movement as a neutral body, which contributes positively toward solving international problems.

The Egyptian and Zairian delegations, in their communique released at the end of the talks between President Mobutu and President Mubarak, reviewed the international situation and expressed their extreme concern over the policy of the use of force and over the increasing deterioration in the world economic order.

Egypt and Zaire agreed on the need to intensify their efforts to establish world peace and stability, to set up a new world economic order, to establish democratic relations among world countries, and to assist national liberation movements in their legitimate struggle to gain independence and sovereignty in accordance with the UN Charter and the principles of nonalignment.

With regard to African issues, Egypt and Zaire reaffirmed their faith in and support for the Lagos working pper, which was drafted to achieve African economic integration based on understanding and solidarity among the OAU member states. They noted with satisfaction the cooperation among the (ANDIGO) group, which illustrates the Lagos working paper.

The following is the text of the joint communique:

In response to an invitation from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Marshal Mobutu Sese Sekou, founding leader of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and president of the Republic of Zaire, and his wife, paid an official visit to Egypt from 24 to 27 March, accompanied by a high-level official delegation.

During the visit, the two presidents and delegations held several fruitful meetings during which prevailed an atmosphere of fraternity, understanding, and a sincere desire to develop strong relations of bilateral cooperation. There was a complete identity of views on the matters discussed.

Participating in the talks on the Egyptian side were Foreign Minister Dr Ahmad 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Information Minister Mahmud Safwat al-Sharif; Ambassador Ahmad Sidqi, director of the African Department at the Foreign Ministry; and Mustafa Fahmi, Egyptian ambassador to Zaire. On the Zairian side were Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation; Citizen (Siti Bali), special adviser to the founding leader of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and president of the Republic of Zaire; Citizen (Nimi Mayidika Njimbi), director of the office of the founding leader of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and president of the Republic of Zaire; Citizen Ngandu Mwalaba, Zairian ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt; and Citizen (Bakiti Bukayi), director of the Africa and Middle East Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The two leaders expressed their satisfaction and pleasure with the progress achieved in bilateral relations. They approved a new strategy designed to give strong impetus to these relations. In this respect, the two leaders emphasized the role of the higher Egyptian-Zairian Joint Committee in promoting and diversifying economic, commercial, technical, and cultural bilateral cooperation. They agreed to devote every effort and all available means to promote bilateral cooperation in all areas.

Proceeding from this spirit, the two presidents agreed on convening the next session of the higher Egyptian-Zairian Joint Committee in Kinshasa in November 1985.

The two sides affirmed that solidarity among the developing states is regarded as an indispensable factor for consolidating relations of cooperation among these states. For this reason, the two leaders emphasized their determination to work for strengthening cooperation among the African states, as well as cooperation among the states of the south in all areas on the basis of understanding and common interests.

Both leaders reviewed the international situation and expressed their extreme anxiety over the worsening situation, the continuous resort to the policy of using force, and the increasing deterioration of the international economic situation. The two sides agreed on the importance of intensifying their efforts for the achievement of international peace and stability and of working for the attainment of a new international economic system, for the establishment of democratic relations among the states, and for giving unreserved support to the national liberation movements in their legitimate struggle for the attainment of independence and the right of sovereignty, in accordance with the UN Charter and the principles of the Nonaligned Movement.

The two sides were particularly interested in studying the situation in Africa and in the Middle East. They underscored their firm adherence to the goals and principles of the OAU, especially those involving respect for every state's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity; noninterference in other states' internal affairs; and the settlement of disputes among them by peaceful means.

With regard to Africa, the two sides agreed on the need to focus attention on the economic and social conditions of the continent

as well as on the need to reach suitable solutions to the numerous problems confronting development issues, particularly those relating to drought and to the encroachment of the desert.

Within the framework of consolidating African relations, the two sides reaffirmed their faith in and complete support for the Lagos working paper to achieve economic integration in Africa on the basis of understanding and solidarity among the OAU member states. They also expressed their satisfaction with the cooperation among the member-states of the (ANDIGO) group, which is regarded as a living embodiment of the Lagos working paper and a practical application of it. Both sides agreed on the importance of increasing cooperation among the Nile Basin states in all areas.

With regard to the situation in Chad, the two leaders expressed their concern over the problem and their belief that the solution to this problem lies in respecting the sovereignty and unity of Chad and in withdrawing Libyan forces so that the lawful government of President Hissein Habre would be in a position to achieve national reconciliation. In this respect, both leaders pledged support for all initiatives taken for such an end.

Regarding the Western Sahara, Egypt and Zaire expressed their belief that this problem can only be solved by implementing the resolutions passed by the OAU summits in Nairobi in 1981, and in Addis Ababa in 1983.

The two leaders also reviewed the situation in South Africa in light of recent developments. They expressed their concern over the continuation of apartheid and the unlawful occupation of Namibia. They also expressed dismay over South Africa's hostile attitude toward independent African countries and its attempts to destabilize these countries. Egypt and Zaire strongly condemned the massacres recently perpetrated by the racist forces of South Africa against the unarmed black population.

The two leaders expressed their unlimited support for the South African people in their struggle against racism, against the inhuman policy of apartheid, and for freedom and social progress.

Concerning the situation in Namibia, the Egyptian and Zairian presidents confirmed their backing for SWAPO, the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people, in its struggle for national liberation. They stressed that the only way for a just and peaceful solution of the Namibian problem is the immediate and unconditional implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435.

After reviewing the Middle East situation, the two presidents reaffirmed that any just and lasting solution of the Middle East conflict must include a recognition of the inalienable and immutable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right for self-determination. They denounced any violation of the principle of the impermissibility of seizing land by force, as stipulated in international law, the Geneva treaties, and UN resolutions.

Egyptian officials briefed Zairian officials in detail on Egypt's current efforts to pave the road for dialogue and negotiations, in a way that will help promote the peace process.

The two countries will continue encouraging every initiative aimed at achieving a comprehensive negotiated settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Regarding the Gulf war, both leaders expressed their dismay over the continuation of hostilities in the Gulf and called on Iraq and Iran to end the fighting, particularly the shelling of populated areas and cities. They called for a just and peaceful solution to this conflict through negotiations.

Egypt and Zaire underlined the importance of the role played by the Nonaligned Movement, as an independent body which contributes positively to solving international problems.

In this respect, both countries called for intensified efforts to ensure the success of the nonaligned foreign ministers conference, scheduled to be held in Luanda in September 1985, and the ministerial meeting for the nonaligned liaison office, scheduled to be held in New Delhi in April 1985 and which will be devoted to the Namibian problem.

The two presidents expressed total satisfaction over the positive outcome of Marshal Mobutu's visit to Egypt and stressed the need for frequent meetings among both countries' officials.

Marshal Mobutu Sese Sekou expressed to President Husni Mubarak the feelings of friendship and appreciation held by the Zairian people for the Egyptian people. He also expressed his gratitude to President Mubarak and to the Government and people of Egypt for the hospitality and warm reception accorded to him, his wife, and his accompanying delegation.

Zairian President Concludes Visit

NC280710 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko and his accompanying delegation left Luxor for home this morning. They had spent the night in Luxor, where they arrived yesterday after the conclusion of President Mobutu's 3-day official visit.

During his stay in Luxor, the Zairian president visited tourist and archaeological sites, as well as the Karnak Temple and the Luxor Museum.

Authorities Investigating Nasr Demonstrators

PM280929 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 24 Mar 85 pp 1,7

[Unattributed report: "Investigation of 18 Persons Who Demonstrated at Exhibition"]

[Excerpts] The State Security prosecution yesterday began investigating 18 persons accused of demonstrating at the industrial exhibition in Nasr town on Friday noon and of shouting hostile slogans, distributing leaflets against state policy, causing damage to property and public vehicles, and clashing with security men, causing injury to seven officers and a number of privates.

The accused broke several masts and burnt the Israel and the U.S. flags. They tried to block traffic in Salah Salim street and some of the demonstrators distributed hostile leaflets. The demonstration lasted from 1100 until 1430 yesterday.

The demonstrators tried to march to Al-'Abbasiyah Square, but they were arrested on the authorization of the State Security. Investigation is continuing.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Communique No 1,786

JN271755 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Communique No 1,786 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 27 March 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The Iraqi people's Armed Forces will continue to deal destructive blows to the racist, criminal, and rapacious rulers and will strike at their remnant forces on the battlefront, on their supplies, and on selected targets deep inside their territory. This is the due punishment for those who insisted and continue to insist on war, without any moral inhibitions or restraints of conscience. We will not stop until they raise the banner of peace and accept the truth.

The following is summary of operations of last night and today:

1. Since dawn today, our Air Force has been carrying out a series of raids on selected targets inside Iran and as follows:

At 0200 today [2300 GMT 26 March], selected targets were hit in Tehran and in the cities of Qazvin and Kashan.

At 1000 today, selected targets were hit in Gilan-e Gharab and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. At 1315 today, the Air Force eagles made a destructive strike on the city of Hamadan.

We will continue to strike at them everywhere and at all times until they desist from aggression on our cities and accept comprehensive peace. Otherwise, their cries and trivial acts will not benefit them. We will make them taste bitter defeat every day.

2. One of our forward units carried out a daring, lightning raid on enemy positions east of Basra. After a daring, heroic operation in which efficient command, accurate performance, and immense courage were manifested, our unit was able to kill 30 enemy troops, wound many more, and capture others.

Our unit burned three hardware stockpiles and a number of vehicles. All members of the unit returned safely to their positions, praise be to God.

3. With renewed determination and high morale, our proud eagles continued their capable action over defeated enemy units east of Tigris, directing violent blows on them and inflicting heavy losses in men and equipment. They carried out 80 combat missions today, and returned safely to base.

4. Our forward units fired on enemy units east of Basra, scoring effective hits. A number of enemy men were either killed or wounded, and one enemy boat was destroyed with its occupants killed. Our units destroyed five vehicles, two of them laden with hardware, one infantry position, and one hardware stockpile. One of our units elsewhere in the same sector sighted a group of about 11 enemy personnel and opened mortar fire, killing or wounding all of them.

5. Four infantry positions were destroyed and those manning them were killed. Two hardware stockpiles were burned in the Maysan sector.

6. Three infantry positions and one machinegun were destroyed, with those manning them killed, in the Central and Northern sectors.

7. The spiteful enemy shelled Basra and Mandali with heavy artillery.

8. Escaping the terror of the Iranian ruling clique, a number of Iranian civilians sought refuge with our forces at the front. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

Tehran, Qazvin, Kashan Raided

JN271918 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1905 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement by military spokesman]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

This is the just judgment of the Iraqi people and the harsh punishment being implemented by the brave Air Force eagles on the criminal Khomeyniite clique, whose ancient spite urges it to attack our people. The cruel ambitions of this clique are also prompting it to commit aggression on our territories and cities.

Our Air Force launched very violent, destructive raids on Tehran, Qazvin, and Kashan at 2100 [1800 GMT] tonight. After carrying out their mission in the best possible manner, the Air Force eagles returned with their planes safe under God's protection. Therefore, let the Iranian rulers take the punishment they deserve. We will not stop our missiles from hitting their heads until they raise the banner of complete peace. God will support us against the unjust. He is the best of supporters.

[Dated] 27 March 1985

Cities, Camps Suffer Raids

JN280926 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0905 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement by military spokesman]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

This is the valiant Iraqi Armed Forces' promise to their great people and their triumphant leader that they will continue to pursue the enemy on its own ground to inflict on it the harshest blows and the heaviest losses, whether on vital targets or military targets. This is our daily reply to the Tehran rulers as a result of their designs and their evil intentions toward our people and their insistence on prolonging the war.

Our daring Air Force carried out a series of crushing raids against Ilam, Salehabad, Esfahan, and Tabriz and against the Baneh and Marivan camps between 0900 [0600 GMT] and 1015

today. After accurately pounding their targets, the hawks of the air returned safely with their planes, protected by God, and leaving their enemy under the debris caused by the missiles. We will let them suffer more pain and certain death until they acknowledge their impotence in confronting lofty Iraq, desist from their evil course, and return to the path of peace. Blessed be the staunch men, the hawks of the air, and let us proceed forward to wipe out the oppressive enemy at any time and wherever it may be. It is God who grants success.

[Dated] 28 March 1985

'Large Maritime Target' Hit

JN281101 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1053 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — Iraq has announced that its fighter aircraft carried out a raid against a very large maritime target near Khark Island today, scoring accurate and effective hits. In a statement to INA, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the Iraqi fighter aircraft carried out the raid at 1200 [0900 GMT] and returned safely to base. The spokesman said Iraq daily reaffirms that it is capable of dealing destructive blows to the enemy deep inside its territory and to its oil supplies in the Arab Gulf until the enemy submits to justice and peace.

UN Accused of 'Failing To End' Gulf War

JN281208 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] United Nations, 28 Mar (INA) — Iraq has stated that it will work alone to end its war with Iran and accused the United Nations of failing to end this war. Iraq's UN Permanent Representative Riyad al-Qaysi said that Iraq seeks to attain a comprehensive settlement and will not accept any partial settlement for ending the conflict with Iran that will allow it to pursue the fighting in order to achieve political objectives. The Iraqi representative criticized the United Nations for its preoccupation with marginal issues that have resulted from this war. He said that this prevented it from reaching a settlement in the past and will prevent it from ending the war in future.

He said in this respect: We have had enough of secondary steps. From now on, Iraq will not deal with any efforts the international organization intends to undertake outside the framework of an integrated solution by which the two parties to the conflict would abide for the attainment of a comprehensive, just, and honorable peaceful settlement. He added: Iraq always responded to the desires expressed by the UN Security Council and the UN Security Council and the UN secretary general. However, Iraq has become convinced that since these efforts have so far failed in attaining a settlement of the conflict, Iraq will work alone to settle it.

Riyad al-Qaysi stressed that Iraq demonstrated its sincere and unconditional desire to end the conflict with Iran in the letter the Iraqi foreign minister sent to the UN Security Council president on 16 March. He added that Iraq expressed its willingness to discuss the issue of halting the shelling of civilian centers and the issue of POW's as a step toward the attainment of a comprehensive settlement within an integrated framework. He explained that Iran is putting emphasis on the unexpected or secondary result of the conflict while it insists on prolonging the war. This means that it wishes the war to continue, but under circumstances and conditions which suit its objectives and military capabilities.

The Iraqi representative accused UN member countries and the UN secretary general of obliging Iran. He said that they have been currying Iran's favor for over 4 and 1/2 years under the pretext that they must not antagonize or isolate Iran in the hope that it will agree to peace. However, this stand has not changed the fact that Iran continued to commit one aggression after the other against Iraq with the objective of occupying its territory.

The Iraqi envoy stressed that Iraq completely rejects this stand and warned against any attempt to give in to this hope, which he described as an Iranian maneuver and a subterfuge raised by Tehran to divert the international community's attention from the tragedies of this war. He said that any action of this kind will directly contribute to the prolongation of the war and will pose a threat to the security of Iraq and that of the entire region. The Iraqi representative added that Iran must choose between comprehensive peace and war. If it chooses comprehensive peace, Iraq will be ready for this, but if it chooses war it must suffer all the consequences of this choice.

In reply to a question on whether Iraq will abide by the June 1984 moratorium on attacks against civilian areas that was arranged by the United Nations, the Iraqi representative said that Iraq will not consider this moratorium in isolation from the search for a framework for a serious and comprehensive concept of a peaceful settlement that Iran will officially approve. He added that the time has come for the United Nations to ask Tehran to give an official written reply concerning its stand toward a peaceful settlement.

Ramadan Speaks to Volunteers at Training Camp

JN271741 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Comrade Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and commander in chief of the Popular Army, has asserted that our brave Armed Forces will continue to pound their selected targets inside Iran until the Teheran rulers submit and accept just peace. Speaking at a training camp to new volunteers from the Al-Ta'mim Governorate and the [Kurdish] autonomous region, Ramadan pointed out that the suspect Iranian regime's shelling of Iraqi cities had been a cover for their recent aggression, which resulted in their forces sustaining massive human and material losses. Ramadan added that our daring Armed Forces are in continuous development in terms of both numbers and armaments, despite the fact that we are in the 5th year of our just fight, and that the glorious sons of Iraq defended great Iraq in the recent battles with outstanding heroism and waged the greatest of battles, during which they inflicted tremendous losses in men and equipment.

The commander in chief of the Popular Army noted that the Popular Army fighters helped to tear up enemy forces at the side of our Army, benefiting from their great experience during their

large-scale participation in the battles of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah. Ramadan said that the fighters from the autonomous region's Al-Kut Irbil and Al-Sulaymaniayh Governorates stood, at the frontline, by their comrades in the Popular Army and our brave Armed Forces. This, he added, is a great expression of the decisive answwer to enemy acts. Ramadan said that agents cannot be an obstacle to the march of progress and awakening in Iraq, and that the Iraqis and their great sacrifices have obviously crushed aggression and protected the walls of the homeland over the past years.

Ramadan was accompanied in this inspection tour by the chief of staff of the Popular Army, Al-Ta'mim Governor Zuhayr al-Aqadiri, the commander of the Popular Army in Al-Ta'mim and his assistants, and a number of officials from the Popular Army's General Command.

Ramadan Receives GDR Ambassador Scharfenberg

JN271357 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1326 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received the GDR Ambassador in Baghdad Guenther Scharfenberg here today. He asked him to deliver a letter to Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, dealing with bilateral cooperation.

Iranian Opposition Attacks Office in Tehran

JN271256 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0642 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Mar (INA) — It was reported here today that an Iranian opposition group attacked the iranian public prosecutor's office in Tehran last Thursday. Citing reports leaking from Tehran, the newspaper *AL-THAWRAH*, published here today, says that the attack, in which RPG rockets were used, took place at a time when Safa'i, who is in charge of the "political ideology" department was in the office. The newspaper explains that the regime's guards hurried to the scene where they sealed off roads and detained many passersby. It points out that the seriousness of this attack stems from the fact that it occurred in a prohibited area in Tehran.

Severe 'Blows' Against Iran To Continue

JN271252 Baghdad INA in English 1230 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, March 27, INA — Two local dailies stressed that Iraq would go on dealing tough and severe blows to the Iranian regime until that regime "accepts the logic of justice and peace." *AL-THAWRAH* said, in an editorial published here today, that Iraq would not give the regime in Iran the opportunity to catch its breath and would shatter its dreams. It added that the rulers of Tehran should be aware that their empty prattling and arrogance would not pay off, for they had suffered heavy losses in recent battles in the Al-Hawizah marshes. *AL-THAWRAH* said Iraq would continue hitting concentrations of Iranian troops wherever they are.

AL-JUMHURIYAH pointed out that the Iraqi Armed Forces had scored a landslide victory over the Iranian enemy during the Al-Hawizah marsh battles. The daily noted that the Iranian rulers are now attempting desperately to lessen the serious losses they maintained during those battles. Iraq, the daily concluded, would continue dealing devastating blows to the Iranian rulers everyday until they opt for peace.

'More Painful Blows' Predicted

JN280819 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Mar (INA) — *AL-THAWRAH* affirms that Iraq is determined to make the intransigent Iranian rulers kneel down and force them to relinquish all their designs and evil dreams against Iraq. In its editorial today, the paper says that Iraq will continue to strike and destroy all nests of aggression and will sever the enemy's supply routes and the sources that are financing its aggression.

AL-THAWRAH adds: We are not concerned about the Iranian rulers' lamentations and we are not bothered by their trivial actions against Iraqi people and cities, as long as we are capable of breaking their necks and smashing their corrupt heads.

The paper stresses that while the war enters its 5th year, the Iranian rulers' objectives of invading and occupying Iraq and of imposing their choices on its people have become apparent. The paper says that the blows Iraq is dealing to the Iranian rulers' interests are within the framework of its legal and legitimate right to defend its independence, the security of its people, its sovereignty, and its dignity. The paper warns the Iranian rulers that Iraq possesses more means for cutting their tongues and breaking their backs.

The paper adds: We not only know very well what we have, but also know what Iran has. Therefore the evildoers must expect more painful blows against their targets and dens every day.

Embassy Denies Reports on Expelling Palestinians
GF280902 Doha QNA in Arabic 0730 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Mar (QNA) — The Jordanian Embassy to the UAE has denied reports by some news agencies that Jordan will expel the Palestinians in case the Amman accord is abrogated. In a statement to the Abu Dhabi-based newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, published today, Samih al-Ashqar, acting charge d'affaires at the Jordanian Embassy, said: Jordan has been and will remain eager for its pan-Arab commitments.

AL-RA'Y on Israeli Involvement in 'Star Wars'
JN280900 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 28 Mar 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The United States, Israel, and 'Star Wars'"]

[Text] The invitation that U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weiberger has extended to Israel to participate in the research related to the "star wars" program is odd. Israeli television revealed this invitation yesterday evening. If true, then it means that the U.S. Administration wants Israel to join in the preparations of the most dangerous U.S. military project. It consequently means that the U.S. Administration wants the Arabs to know that any military balance they aim to achieve with Israel will not catch up with future developments that are accelerating in this regard, foremost being the "star wars" program.

It goes without saying that involving Israel in this program by the United States will intensify Israel's arrogance, intransigence, and rejection of the efforts being exerted to activate the Palestine question and to bring the region closer to the desire for just peace. The Arabs should not neglect this dangerous development because it constitutes a joint U.S.-Israeli threat to the future of all Arabs and confirms the evil intentions that these two partners harbor against Arabs. It is also a savage step aimed at converting the region into one of the selected theaters that will suffer should such a star war break out.

Vis-a-vis this real danger, the Arabs are invited to study it comprehensively and to do whatever possible in terms of political, diplomatic, and military action. Failing to do so, it may be difficult or impossible for the Arabs to catch up with developments.

Involving Israel, in one way or another, in the "star wars" program with the United States strengthens the conviction that our region is still facing a long period of conflict against the U.S.-Israeli hegemony and that it may be necessary now, more than ever, to hold Arab-Soviet consultations to discuss this development and evaluate its results in every respect, especially since the Arabs are interested in keeping the region away from the superpower conflict and from the joint hegemony of the Israeli aggressors and their U.S. allies.

'Khaybar Brigades' Announce Release of Hostage

NC271345 Paris AFP in English 1334 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] London, March 27 (AFP) — Gordon Nash, one of three Britons kidnapped in Beirut last week, was released overnight in the Lebanese capital, the Foreign Office announced here today.

A spokesman said Mr Nash was in good health and that he had been "well treated."

Mr Nash, a metal engineer employed by the Lebanese Government, was abducted on March 14.

Yesterday, an anonymous caller claiming to speak for a hitherto unknown group calling itself the Khaybar Brigades told a news agency in Beirut to announce "the forthcoming release of two British hostages, Gordon Nash and Brian Levick, and of French Hostage Danielle Perez", a secretary at the French Embassy.

He said that the Khaybar Brigades had "finished interrogating" the three and had decided to release them.

Mr Levick, a company director, was kidnapped on March 15 and Mrs Perez was abducted on March 22.

The caller claimed responsibility for the kidnapping of Mrs Perez and two other French citizens abducted on the same day.

Journalist's Release Expected 'Soon'

NC280809 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] UN Press Adviser Francois Gilyani has reported that British journalist Alec Colett will soon be released. Colett was kidnapped last Monday south of Beirut. The UN adviser declined to identify the kidnappers, who told UN officials that they will soon release Colett. It should be recalled that the United Nations has decided to evacuate its employees from Lebanon, except for those who are performing essential duties.

UN To Withdraw NonEssential Civilian Employees

NC280548 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] A UN spokesman has said that the United Nations has decided to withdraw all of its civilian employees from Lebanon, except for those who are performing essential tasks, for their own safety.

Reportage on Weekly Cabinet Meeting

Sham'un on Cabinet Debate

NC271043 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] [Former] President Camille Sham'un left the Cabinet meeting, which is still in progress, at 1145. He made the following statement:

Our discussions began with a review of security and economic matters. The Army commander was soon recalled to complete the discussions on security affairs. An emergency session of the Cabinet will be held on Saturday for the sake of conducting comprehensive discussions on security issues, as well as on the economic situation worrying the Lebanese citizen.

Karami Makes Statement

NC271414 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The weekly Cabinet meeting ended at 1345 today. President Amin al-Jumayyil chaired the meeting, attended by the prime minister, and ministers, except for Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt. At the end of the meeting Prime Minister Karami made the following statement:

[Begin recording] During today's meeting, the Cabinet reviewed all aspects of the political, security, economic, and social situation. The Cabinet focused on events in certain areas in eastern, western, southern, and northern Lebanon.

The Cabinet summoned the Army Command officers to brief them on the details of current events. The Cabinet members concurred on the need to take the necessary steps to contact the various parties and draw their attention to the need for coordination and cooperation to preserve Lebanon's sovereignty and the fate of its sons, particularly since we are facing the second phase of the Israeli withdrawal. It seems from current movements that this phase of withdrawal is imminent. The enemy prime minister spoke very frankly about comprehensive withdrawal. He even promises withdrawal in the near future. We hope this withdrawal will take place because we are confident that all Lebanese support the liberation of the south, the western Al-Biqa', and Rashayya.

I appeal to everyone in the name of national duty to thwart sedition and put an end to anything that might infringe upon the unity of the Lebanese people, of Lebanon, and of Lebanese institutions.

We must not allow the factors of divisions to penetrate us or to become entrenched in our sects, parties, and areas, because a day may come when everything will be in disarray. There are parties who are advocating cantons. This will make us lose our dear homeland, Lebanon, without realizing our great responsibility toward ourselves, our sons, and history. Thus, I want to draw the attention of everyone and affirm, despite all the difficulties that awareness, loyalty, and truthfulness are manifest among our people and on all levels.

I urge everyone to realize the importance of the current stage and its effect on our existence, fate, unity, and entity. It is not a great feat to draw the attention of the Lebanese people to the need to be conscious and to close their ranks and exhibit solidarity. They are qualified to do whatever will serve Lebanon and its sons. [end recording]

'Foreigners' Accused of Looting

NC280756 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpts] During yesterday's Cabinet meeting, President Amin al-Jumayyil discussed foreigners who are displacing the citizens from Sidon and its suburbs to achieve sectarian separation in accordance with an Israeli plan.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami supported the president's statement by saying that Israeli elements are acting day and night in 'Abra and Sidon to strike at the spirit of unity that has been prevailing among the people of Sidon following the withdrawal of the occupation forces. Karami pointed out that foreigners in 'Abra and Sidon are the ones who have looted houses and have carried out inhuman actions there.

Franjiyah Says Uprising Serves Israel

NC270850 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0720 GMT 27 Mar 85

["Full text" of news conference held by former President Sulayman Franjiyah at his palace in Zgharta on 26 March — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Question: Your Excellency, the recent Lebanese-Syrian summit has topped all other current issues. Do you think that the results of this summit will be practically implemented, or do you think there are negative developments?

Franjiyah: This is the third summit this year. Every summit has been welcomed by the Lebanese people. Regrettably, we have not yet heard that the Lebanese state has sought the help of fraternal Syria to end the current problems. It is odd that this summit came after the statement made by one of the ministers during the Cabinet session in which he expressed support for the so-called uprising.

This uprising is merely an implementation of an Israeli order to create a situation in Beirut that would force the hero fighter in the national resistance to return to Beirut and defend his capital. This, naturally, would enable Israel to relax and withdraw without (?any problems).

Question: Your Excellency, certain leaders are endeavoring to set up a national front to confront what is taking place in East Beirut. It has been said that you have been contacted in this regard. What is your opinion?

Franjiyah: Any group of politicians or others personalities must give their best because the way the individual thinks is different from that of the group. What the group sees cannot be seen by any individual. I will be the first to support any front that will comprise Lebanese politicians.

Question: Have you been contacted?

Franjiyah: Yes.

Ja'ja' Men Battle Phalangists; Explosions in Beirut

NC271842 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] As part of the power struggle in the east, heavy fighting erupted in several areas this afternoon between pro-Ja'ja' militiamen and those of the Phalange Party. The most serious fighting took place in 'Ayn al-Rummanah and Al-Ashrafiyah. According to reports reaching us from the east, groups of Ja'ja' militiamen, supported by vehicles and by 75mm and 106mm artillery, tried to raid 'Ayn al-Rummanah today. They sought to control it after managing to establish themselves in Furn al-Shubbak. Ja'ja' militiamen tried to enter the area from Jisr al-Basha and Galerie Sim'an via the Sayyidat Lourdes School and the (?Tafarjan) Barracks.

There was heavy fighting, and explosions could be heard in West Beirut. Thus far, Ja'ja' units have been unable to control the situation. Two clashes involving these groups took place in Al-Ashrafiyah this afternoon. The first occurred near the Phalangist radio station, controlled by Ja'ja' militiamen. The second was centered near the Al-Hikmah school, and involved the Phalangist Students Bureau. Machineguns were used in the clashes between Ja'ja' militiamen and those from the Phalange Party. The fighting left an undetermined number of casualties.

Al-Kasm Officially Asked To Form New Government

JN271937 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] A very well-informed source said in Damascus today that Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm has been officially asked to form the new Syrian Government.

Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's Shams al-Din

JN271150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council in Lebanon, at 1230 today. The talks dealt with the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Polish Parliamentary Delegation Continues Visit

Received by Al-Kasm

JN271208 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received speaker of the Sej Stanislaw Gucwa and members of the delegation accompanying him at 1300 today. The Polish ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, Gucwa conveyed the greetings of the Polish premier to Dr al-Kasm. He also explained the stages of the imperialist U.S. plots against Poland to destroy its economy and socialist system, and how Poland had triumphed over these plots and difficulties. The Polish guest also expressed his country's appreciation of Syria's struggle against the Zionist-U.S. plans, and of its achievements in the economic and social fields. He also stressed Poland's support for Syria's stands toward all forms of aggressions against it, and his country's desire to promote the relations of cooperation between Syria and Poland in all fields.

Dr al-Kasm thanked the speaker of the Sejm for his support and appreciation for Syria. Al-Kasm stressed the need to promote the relations of cooperation between the two friendly countries in all fields. At the end of this meeting, Al-Kasm asked Gucwa to convey his greetings to the Polish premier.

Tours Historical Sites

JN271714 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus —The Polish parliamentary delegation led by Sejm Speaker Stanishlaw Gucwa visited the national museum, Al-'Azm Palace, and the Bani Umayyah Mosque today. The delegation was acquainted with the historical and archeological features of these places, and given detailed briefings on them. The delegation members expressed their admiration of the modern and ancient cultural achievements they have noticed in Syria.

Faruq al-Shar' Returns From Tunis Meetings

JN271554 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus —Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus from Tunis this afternoon after heading the Syrian delegation to the 83d Arab League Council session.

Al-Shar' Sends Message to Iranian Counterpart

JN272050 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran — The Syrian Arab ambassador in Tehran has conveyed a written message from Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, who received the Syrian Ambassador to Iran Ibrahim Yunis here this afternoon. Iranian radio said that the two sides discussed relations between the two countries and the latest developments in the war between Iran and Iraq.

Khaddam Sees Off Libya's Jallud at Airport

JN272041 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2015 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Command Council of the 1 September Revolution in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left Damascus this evening after a visit to Syria that lasted several days. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and the members of the Libyan Foreign Relations Bureau in Damascus.

Oil Talks Held With Soviet Union in Damascus

JN271355 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT
27 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 27 Mar (SANA) — The members of the Syrian-Soviet joint oil committee stemming from the Syrian-Soviet joint economic committee held a meeting here today. The Syrian side was headed by Dr Nadir al-Nabulsi, assistant oil and mineral wealth minister, and the Soviet side was headed by Kotov, chief of the Foreign Relations Administration at the Soviet Ministry of Petroleum Industry.

Both sides reviewed the current situation in the geological and exploratory work aimed at extracting and exploiting oil in Syria. They discussed supplying equipment, spare parts, and the necessary materials to develop the oil industry and to refine oil in Syria. They also discussed preparing and training Syrian cadres in the oil extracting industry and the possibility of developing the existing petroleum relations in accordance with the economic cooperation protocol that exists between the two countries.

Peace Delegation Returns From Moscow WPC Meetings

JN271717 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1515 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus — The Syrian Peace Partisans Movement National Council delegation led by Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Ba'th Party National Command member, returned to Damascus last night after participating in the 21-26 March WPC meetings which were held in Moscow.

The conferees asserted their solidarity with the struggle of Syria, the Lebanese people, and the Palestinians. They highly praised Syria's important and prominent role in confronting the imperialist and Zionist schemes, particularly the schemes of the Camp David policy and the separate and partial deals. They also praised Syria's struggle to achieve just peace.

Palestine National Salvation Front Hailed

JN262102 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 26 Mar 85

[From the "Palestine Broadcast" feature: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers: The cry for Palestinian national salvation reverberated in Damascus yesterday. Black clouds gathered in the Palestinian skies for a while, and obstacles were placed on the path of the Palestinian revolution. Many daggers appeared to stab Palestinian rights. Hammers were directed against the Palestinian conscience in order to frustrate the struggling Arab Palestinian people, as a prelude to dissipating and scattering them.

This hell could not last long, because the Palestinian fighters remained in their true colors and the Palestinian people remained as we have always known them. This hell, which was prepared for the Palestinian people, could not last long. Yesterday, the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] was born. It is the flashing light that penetrated the black clouds of deviation. It is the wave that will keep away all the obstacles that were placed on the path of the Palestinian revolution. The PNSF is the sword that blunted all the daggers that had been prepared to stab Palestinian rights, both in the back and the front. The PNSF is the strong hand that collected all the spikes that were penetrating the Palestinian conscience in order to break them. This is the PNSF.

The PNSF has presented itself to the people, who were waiting for it. It presented itself to the Arab nation, to the Arab people of Palestine, and to all those who fight imperialism, colonialism, racial discrimination, and the Zionist state of Israel.

What happened before the birth of the PNSF is tragic and regrettable. The deviationist Palestinian right stood at the doors of Tel Aviv and the White Hosue, begging for recognition — not of the Palestinian national rights, but of accepting it as a supervisor of liquidating the Palestinian cause. What happened before the birth of the PNSF were acts of piracy by the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes to usurp the right of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This piracy was represented in the so-called Husayn-'Arafat agreement, the so-called King Husayn initiative, and the so-called President Mubarak initiative. It was represented in the 'Arafat leadership's response to calls to participate in a Jordanian regime delegation that would be called the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, which is in fact a Jordanian regime delegation in accordance with the Reagan and Camp David plans.

Amid this bleak atmosphere, the cry of salvation reverberated and the PNSF emerged from the genuine revolutionary factions in order to preserve the sanctity of the Palestinian cause, protect Palestinian rights and the National Charter from tampering, purge the PLO from currents of shame and capitulation, and protect the PLO unity and the Palestinian national unity from the split which the enemies of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation are trying to create.

The PNSF is the proper weapon for the Palestinian Arab people to brandish at the proper time.

Rabin Says PLO Terrorists Returning to S. Lebanon

TA271812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The defense minister has confirmed that the PLO terrorists are returning to southern Lebanon. He said Israel must think not only about leaving Lebanon, but also about deployment facing the Syrians, the Shi'ites, and the PLO. He was speaking with a delegation of Parents Against Silence and representatives of settlements from the north of Israel, who came to his office. He refused to mention dates of departure from Lebanon, but said the IDF is working as fast as possible. He said nothing will stop the IDF from implementing the Cabinet decision to withdraw.

Gen Or Expects Unrest in S. Lebanon After Withdrawal

TA280812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] In a meeting with inhabitants of the Galilee panhandle settlements, Commander of the Northern Command Major General Ori Or stated his belief that the northern border will not be quiet after the withdrawal. He also said that a scorched earth policy would not prevent the firing of katyusha rockets at the Galilee panhandle. Here is a report by Hayim Hecht:

[Begin recording][Hecht] We are leaving Lebanon with our heads held high, Maj Gen Ori Or stressed. No one has expelled us from there; we are withdrawing because we decided that there is no point in our being there, and the decision was a good one.

[Or] The IDF is withdrawing and removing everything it brought into Lebanon. People who declare that this is property in exchange for lives are mistaken. The IDF is not leaving Lebanon as a defeated army, but as one which has decided that it has nothing to do there. If we had to destroy all the houses and bunkers and other equipment — I do not want to go into details here — then we would be leaving as a defeated army. The IDF is withdrawing rapidly. I believe that we will complete the withdrawal by the beginning of June.

[Hecht] Maj Gen Or said that it is clear that the northern border will not be quiet in the future because there is no one to talk to in Lebanon. Those who compare Lebanon to Judaea and Samaria, he claimed, are either fools, evil people, or both. In Jordan, for example, there is a king; in Lebanon, there is a vacuum. At the moment we are dealing with the Shi'ites, the major general said, but it is important to remember that the Palestinians have not been eradicated from Lebanon. There are no magic solutions or proven methods against terrorism, Ori Or noted. Our actions in the Shi'ite villages are a warning that the decision is up to them. We would like honest, neighborly relations. However, if a certain village harbors two Hezbollah members whose destination is Kubbutz Misgav'am, that village will soon be given the choice of either being a peaceful place or throwing the members of the Hezbollah out. Nevertheless, Maj Gen Or warned the Galilee inhabitants that even a scorched earth policy cannot totally prevent terrorist attacks.

[Or] Not even a scorched earth policy along a 10-km zone north of the border can ensure quiet. One cannot prevent a terorist driving a pickup truck — as you know, 107mm katyushas can be mounted on small pickup trucks like those owned by many people — into an uninhabited area in the middle of the night, firing the katyusha rockets, and then driving back to Tyre.

[Hecht] We will not tolerate a terrorist infrastructure in Lebanon such as that which existed before June 1982. We will attack terrorist targets everywhere, whether it be Sidon, Tyre, or Ba'labakk in the Al-Biqa'. The IDF, Maj Gen Or concludes, is leaving Lebanon after having learned many lessons. One of them is that it is obvious that there is, was, and will be, no one with whom peace can be made in Lebanon. One of the inhabitants of the area sighed and said: What a pity that this lesson was not learned 3 years ago. [end recording]

ASL Soldier Wounded, Civil Guard Killed in Lebanon

TA271725 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] An army of southern Lebanon [ASL] soldier was wounded in a terrorist ambush in the center of Al-Nabatiyah. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht notes that automatic weapons fire and an RPG were aimed at an ASL patrol. A member of the civil guards was murdered in the village of Shaqra today. Automatic weapons fire was aimed from an ambush at a civil guards patrol.

Talks Held With U.S. on VOA Relay Station

TA271355 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
27 Mar 85 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Yose Melman]

[Text] The United States is asking that the radio relay station that will be set up in Israel for broadcasts to the Soviet Union serve not only the Voice of America as initially planned, but two more radio stations that carry propaganda broadcasts. This transpired at the end of the 1st day of negotiations on this issue in Jerusalem. Reference was made to Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe, two stations that broadcast from studios in Western Europe.

The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that setting up the radio relay station in the Negev region is being considered; this is instead of near Zefat, as initially publicized. The members of the two delegations will begin tomorrow to check sites suitable for broadcasting.

In the course of the talks yesterday, Israel raised its demand that anti-Semitic elements and allusions be left out of these transmissions. The U.S. representatives to the talks, headed by John [as published] Flaten, the charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Israel, said that if there were such transmissions in the past they were carried contrary to the stations' charters. Flaten explained that this matter was also raised in the U.S. Congress.

It further transpired that the United States wants to use the relay station to carry a large variety of broadcasts in several languages to the various Soviet republics.

The *DAVAR* correspondent has learned that some of the broadcasts may also reach other countries, such as Afghanistan and Iran.

Israel is represented in the talks by Foreign Ministry Deputy Director General Hanan Bar-On, Communications Ministry Director General Yoram Elster, and officials from both ministries. The talks will end the day after tomorrow, but it is clear that further talks are necessary in the coming months before the agreement on establishing the relay station is signed. This project will cost millions of dollars, perhaps even $100 million.

Use of Voice of Israel

TA280842 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar p 3

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Israel may put channels used by the Voice of Israel to broadcast to the Soviet Union at the VOA's disposal. It has been learned that the U.S. representatives in the joint committee to the talks on establishing a special transmitter requested that the VOA be allowed to use the Communications Ministry's transmitters, which would be made more powerful, for this.

Israel's representatives to the talks, headed by Foreign Ministry Deputy Director General Hanan Bar-On, promised to look into the request in order to enable the VOA to begin partial broadcasts until the special transmitter has been set up.

The members of the delegation will tour the Negev region today. This southern area has been found to be the best for long-range broadcasts to the Soviet Union.

Ambassador to Cairo Speaks of Peace With Egypt

TA271828 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1737 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 27 mar (ITIM) — At a meeting with Israeli jornalists in Cairo today, the Israeli Ambassador to Egypt, Moshe Sason, said the Israeli Embassy and the EL AL company's activity in Egypt are currently the two most tangible and important — and perhaps the only — components of the "cold peace" between the two countries; this is even though exactly 6 years have passed since the peace treaty was signed in Washington on 26 Mar 1979.

At a talk with journalists in the embassy, on the 10th floor of the building that overlooks the Nile, the ambassador, who has 4 years of service in Cairo behind him, said the strategic and basic peace had passed difficult tests and periods, especially after the death of Anwar al-Sadat, but it had withstood them.

Mr Sason noted that the development of daily relations had been curbed, there was a total freeze on trade, and there were no cultural relations, but tourism through EL AL and travel agencies had developed greatly.

At the same time, it should be noted that thousands of Israelis visit Egypt, but almost no Egyptian citizens visit Israel.

Tourism from Egypt to Israel consists primarily of foreign tourists who visit Israel and Egypt as part of package tours, or of thousands of foreigners working in Egypt who go home via Israel.

Ambassador Sason noted that Israel in fact "contributes" 20 percent to the 1.4 million tourists who visit Egypt annually, while only some 5 percent of all tourists visiting Israel or passing through it come from Egypt. The ambassador added that over the past few years only some 4,000 tourists had come overland to Israel from Egypt each year.

He explained that Egyptians cannot come to Israel because the authorities require that they hold a special passport and visa and these can be obtained only with difficulty, in contrast to the spirit of the peace treaty between the two countries.

MK Ben-Elisar To Meet Egyptian Foreign Minister

TA271918 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tomorrow Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid will receive Knesset Member [MK] Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, Israel's first ambassador to Egypt. Moshe Sason, Israel's present ambassador to Cairo, will also participate in the talk. Ben-Elisar stressed to our correspondent Hanan Nave that he will not be conveying any political message.

Knesset Votes To Approve Budgetary Law

TA271533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] This afternoon, as a result of coalition votes, the Knesset approved the basic law, the budget: the law that determines the framework of the government's activity. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli explains that, for the first time, the law places the responsibility for any breach of it on the officials, unless the breach was committed with the approval of the minister in charge. A special disciplinary court will be established to judge officials who have deviated from the budget, and high fines will be imposed on offenders. The finance minister is entitled to intervene in the activity of all the ministries, the local authorities, and the government-owned companies.

Prices To Rise in Conjunction With Package Deal

TA271831 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The prices of hundreds of items are going up tonight by an average of 6 percent. This was agreed upon today by the partners to the package deal. Here are some of the items going up in price: sugar, by 5 percent; daily papers, 16 percent; imported refrigerators, washing machines, and dishwashers, 13.5 percent; taxi fares, 6.5 percent; soap, 5 percent; and alcoholic beverages, 7.5 percent. Prime Minister Peres is to convene a meeting of the partners to the package deal tomorrow afternoon to decide on the

further implementation of the price and wage control agreement. The Histadrut is demanding that, following tonight's price increases, prices will remain frozen for another 2 months.

Finance Ministry To Supervise National Bank

TA272037 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] From now on the Bank of Israel will be subordinate to the Finance Ministry in everything involving its budget. This was decided today by the Knesset Finance Committee. The basic law, the budget, which was approved by the Knesset, permits the finance minister to supervise the Bank of Israel's expenses and restrict them if this is necessary. Our correspondent 'Oded Shahar reports that the Bank of Israel received the decision very angrily. The bank heads claimed that the Finance Ministry will now be able to increase its pressure on the bank in order to moderate criticism of the economic policy.

Land To Be Returned to Galilee Arab Villages

TA271451 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 Mar 85 p 23

[Report by correspondent on Arab affairs]

[Text] Residents of the villages of Sakhnin, 'Arraba, and Deir Hanna received with pleasure and satisfaction the announcement by the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir, that land owned by them in Section 9 [Shetah 9] is to be returned to them.

The day before yesterday, Avraham Tamir met with the heads of the councils of the three villages and informed them of the decision to return a considerable part of the land in Section 9 to them. He also said he had instructed Minister 'Ezer Weizman's aide, Dr Yosef Ginat, to see to adding areas from firing range No 117 to the Sakhnin local council's construction zone.

Prior to this, Tamir toured Section 9 and heard explanations from security personnel and the Israel Land Authority's staff about the territory.

The head of the Sakhnin council, Muhammad Ghana'im, told our correspondent that next week the council heads in the area will hold another meeting with the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, with the aim of reaching a final written decision.

The chairman of the National Committee of Heads of Arab Authorities, Ibrahim Nimr, who also met with the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, welcomed the decision to return land from Section 9 to its owners. Nimr regards the decision as the beginning of a positive turn in the government's policy toward Arab citizens.

Our correspondent notes that the decision to return land from Section 9 on the eve of Land Day, which falls on Saturday [30 March], will contribute to calming tempers in the Arab settlements.

Opposition to More West Bank Settlements Mounts

TA280838 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 85 p 3

[PORI Poll]

[Text] The number of Israelis who are opposed to establishing additional settlements in the West Bank continues to mount and currently stands at 52.2 percent. This is the highest rate of opposition recorded by PORI polls since 1981. These findings emerged from a nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the PORI Institute and commissioned by *HA'ARETZ*.

To the question "Do you favor or oppose the establishment of additional settlements in Judaea and Samaria at the moment?," 52.2 percent gave negative responses while 35.4 percent replied affirmatively.

Some 2.8 percent said their position depended on certain conditions such as the economic situation, whether or not the funds for the settlements come from government sources, and whether or not the settlements are set up in densely populated Arab areas. Some 9.6 percent of those polled had no opinion whatsoever on the issue.

The pollster, Refa'el Gil, points out that 74.3 percent of the Alignment voters presently oppose the establishment of additional settlements while 18 percent are in favor. Among Likud voters, on the other hand, 55.2 percent are in favor while 33.5 percent are opposed to setting up additional settlements. Two months ago, 64.5 percent of Likud voters were in favor while only 23.8 percent were against additional settlements.

The poll was conducted on a representative sample of 1,200 people who were interviewed individually throughout Israel.

Commentary on Syria's Call for Aid to Lebanon

JN271658 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 27 Mar 85

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Farug al-Shar', who participated in the Arab League ministerial council in Tunis, has blamed the Arab countries for failing to extend financial aid to Lebanon in accordance with the Fes summit resolution, on the pretext that the security situation in Lebanon did not allow extending such aid. At the news conference he held in the Tunisian capital yesterday, he not only blamed the Arab rulers, but also warned them against the dangers of failing to extend financial aid to Lebanon.

In fact, the Damascus rulers are the last who have the right to blame the Arab rulers for failing to fulfill their promise to extend financial assistance to Lebanon. I say this not because the Lebanese people do not deserve assistance and support. On the contrary, the miserable and helpless Lebanese people deserve every assistance. The Damascus rulers' blaming the Arab countries involves a great deal of arrogance, because these rulers have caused a great deal of destruction and bloodshed to the Lebanese

arena. They have also prolonged Lebanon's bloody disruption and tragic ordeal. In this way, they wanted to carry out their plan to gradually convert Lebanon into a Syrian protectorate or a satellite revolving in the Syrian orbit. Therefore, the Damascus rulers have no right to blame the Arab countries.

The Syrian media continue to vilify the Arab rulers day and night, and to describe them as treasonous and agents. They describe this ruler as reactionary, and that ruler as capitulatory or defeatist. They call this Arab ruler a butcher of Black September, and that ruler a fascist and criminal. By calling on the Arab rulers to extend financial aid to Lebanon and by leveling tacit threats at them, the Damascus rulers want the Arab countries to pay for Syria's bloody practices and the destruction it has caused in Lebanon. The Damascus rulers also want the Arab rulers to help them achieve their plans and intentions in Lebanon. Even if the Arab rulers respond or submit to the terrorist Syrian threats, their financial aid to Lebanon will never bring those who were killed back to life, and will never heal the disabled or console the widows, the orphans, and the bereaved in Lebanon.

Briefs

Heroin Smugglers Arrested — Last week detectives from the Central Galilee Police Unit captured two people suspected of trafficking in drugs, who were found in possession of prime quality heroin worth 30 million shekels. One of the suspects was found in posession of 36 grams of heroin. Another young man was arrested in a Qiryat Shemona apartment in possession of 41 grams of heroin. [Summary][*Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 26 Mar 85 p 3 TA*]

Lome Interparliamentary Union Conference Continues

Iranian Delegation Activities

LD261942 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Paris, March 26, IRNA — The 73rd interparliamentary conference was held in Lome, Togo, Monday. An Iranian delegation to the conference is headed by the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Majlis (Islamic Consultative Assembly), Ahmad Azizi.

In its meeting on Monday the Iranian official called on the conference to find ways and means for ensuring that international organizations insist on the safety of air travel between countries and on the observance of relevant international conventions.

Later on in the same session chairman of health committee at the Majlis Dr. Musa Zargar reminded the conference of the hazards involved in the Iraqi deployment of lethal chemical weapons.

The conference is to last until March 30.

USSR Delegates Meet Eyadema

AB271747 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The president of the Republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, received at the Presidential Palace this morning a 4-man Soviet delegation led by Avgust Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and including Sergey Losev, member of the Bureau of the USSR Parliamentary Group, and His Excellency Sergey Shaverdyan, USSR ambassador to Togo. At the end of the audience, the leader of the delegation, Mr Voss, told the press that he and his comrades were happy to be received by the head of state, Gen Eyadema. According to Mr Voss, the discussions between his delegation and the president of the Republic centered on peace and disarmament, two topics that are dear to the Togolese head of state. Listen to the leader of the Soviet delegation.

[Begin Voss recording in Russian followed by French translation] First of all, we would like to express our thanks to the founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People for receiving the Soviet parliamentary delegation, which is taking part in the 73d session of the Interparliamentary Union. We conveyed to the president of the Republic the warm greetings of the Soviet leadership to the people of Togo, the party, and the founding chairman. Our discussion with the head of state was very interesting and substantial. It centered on the search for world peace, for an end to the arms race, and the normalization of the world situation. We expressed our gratitude to the president for showing great concern for these issues, and for his pronouncements in favor of peace and international detente. Both parties shared similar viewpoints on all these issues. We agreed with the president that the two countries should continue efforts toward the achievement of our objectives and especially toward an agreement to negotiate at the international level.

During our meeting we also discussed bilateral relations existing between our two countries and we expressed the common desire to further develop and strengthen these relations in all sectors, namely political, economic, trade, social, and so on. Obviously, we also intend to develop relations between our two parliaments. [end recording]

Eyadema Receives SDAR Delegates

AB271635 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, today received in audience the SDAR delegation attending the interparliamentary conference. The delegation included (Amoubi Ahmed Gazari), a member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Saharan National Council, His Excellency (Ouadadi Mohamed el-Haibat), SDAR ambassador to West Africa, and (Salek Gaheri), a member of the National Council. Upon his departure from the presidential office after the audience, the leader of the SDAR delegation, (Ahmed Gazari), told newsmen that he was bearer of a verbal message from President Abdelaziz of the SDAR to his brother and friend Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema:

[Begin (Gazari) recording in Arabic followed by French translation] The visit falls within the framework of normal consultations between the two countries — the SDAR and Togo — and the framework of existing normal relations between our two peoples. The visit falls in particular within the framework of contacts between the two leaders — President Gnassingbe Eyadema and his brother and counterpart Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the SDAR. The topic we discussed concern our domestic affairs and bilateral relations. It was a verbal message sent by President Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the SDAR, to his counterpart and brother Gen and President Gnassingbe Eyadema, president of the Republic of Togo. [end recording]

LIBYA

Celebrations Mark Expulsion of British Forces

LD272158 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] A big popular march was staged this evening through the streets and squares of Tobruk to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the expulsion of the British bases from the Libyan Arab territories. The participants in the march carried the green flags and pictures of the leader and the placards expressing the joy of the masses on this historic occasion.

Taking part in this march were huge crowds of citizens, youths of Al-Fateh boy scouts, students of schools and training centers, popular companies and establishments, the Women's Revolutionary Committee, and personnel from the military barracks in Tobruk.

A big popular rally will take place tomorrow at 2 March Square in Tobruk in which the masses of the popular conferences, unions, and professional federations and companies operating in the municipality of Tobruk will take part in the festival. Units of the armed people and military barracks from various parts of the Jamahiriyah will also take part.

On the other hand popular festivities and celebrations began in Tripoli this evening on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the expulsion of the British colonialist forces from the Libyan Arab territories. A big popular celebration took place in Al-Jaza'ir Square where the torch of victory was lit outside the evacuation hall in Tripoli municipality signaling the beginning of the popular celebrations of this immortal day. The popular masses participating in this celebration chanted revolutionary slogans rejoicing over evacuation day and their determination to defend the revolutionary achievements and gains achieved thanks to the Great 1 September Revolution.

USSR Delegation Arrives

LD281216 Tripoli JANA in English 0937 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 4, March 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr Jackolin [as received], member of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee and assistant secretary of the Soviet Confederation of Trade Unions, together with a Soviet delegation arrived here on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

They are expected to take part in our celebrations commemorating the 15th anniversary of the eviction of British colonial bases from Libyan Arab soil.

Bulgarian Leader Arrives

LD280935 Tripoli JANA in English 1740 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, 4 Rajab, 27 Mar, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Georgi Karlov Olanov, secretary of the Central Council of Bulgarian Trade Unions of the People's Republic of Bulgaria arrived midday today at Tripoli international airport heading a labor delegation to attend the celebrations of the Libyan Arab people to mark the 15th anniversary of the eviction of the British colonial forces.

MOROCCO

Polish Deputy Premier Arrives for 6-day Visit

LD271926 Rabat MAP in English 1218 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Casablanca March 27 (MAP) — Mr Roman Malinowski, Polish deputy premier and president of the Polish United Farmers Party, arrived Tuesday [26 March] in Casablanca for a six-day visit to Morocco at the invitation of the Moroccan Istiqlal (egalitarian) Party.

In a statement to the press upon arrival, Mr Malinowski said his country intended to reinforce bilateral cooperation relations in the social, cultural and economic fields. The Polish deputy premier said that he will seize the opportunity offered to him by this visit to have talks with members of the Moroccan Government.

King Hassan Receives Saudi Foreign Minister

LD271823 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Hassan II today received in Marrakech the Saudi foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who came to Morocco carrying a personal message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to his brother His Majesty King Hassan II.

Leader of Soviet Veterans Denies USSR Aiding Polisario

PM271559 Casablanca LE MATIN DU SAHARA in French 23 Mar 85 p 3

[MAP report: "The USSR Has No Links With the Polisario and Does Not Recognize the SDAR"]

[Excerpts] Rabat — The Soviet veterans' delegation headed by Major General Grachev which is now visiting Morocco held a second working session on Thursday with representatives of former resistance fighters and former members of the Liberation Army, chaired by High Commissioner Mohamed Benjelloun.

During the two sessions the Moroccan delegation members drew the Soviet's attention to the Polisario mercenaries' use of highly sophisticated Soviet-made weapons and to the presence of Eastern-bloc and Cuban elements in the ranks of the gangs responsible for attacks on Morocco. They asked the Soviet delegation, which represents an association of 8 million veterans, to restore the image of the USSR — a country whose friendship the Moroccans are proud to have and whose struggle against fascism and Nazism and whose support for the Palestinian cause, the Arab world's main cause, they admire.

The major general, for his part, said that his country is not linked with the Polisario in any way and does not recognize the so-called

SDAR. He also stressed that the USSR "is not supplying arms to any force in the world which is engaged against Morocco."

SUDAN

'Violent Demonstrations' in Khartoum Detailed

Demonstrations Break Out

NC271529 Paris AFP in English 1519 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Khartoum, March 27 (AFP) — Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri of Sudan left here today for an official visit to the United States during which he is due to meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

(Violent demonstrations involving "several thousand" people broke out in central Khartoum immediately after Marshal Numayri left for the United States, eyewitnesses said. The witnesses, reached by telephone from Cairo, said the demonstrations were quelled by police after rioters smashed hotel and shop windows and attacked cars. Many people were arrested in the massive police intervention, they added. Police were later posted to protect major buildings in the city center, the witnesses said. The protesters reportedly included activists of the Moslem Brotherhood, some of whose leading members were sacked from the government and judiciary in a major government shake-up earlier this month.)

The riots have came only two days after Marshal Numayri's announcement that all government subsidies, including those on basic consumer necessities, were to be ended.

Demonstrators Killed, Injured

NC271733 Paris AFP in English 1727 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, March 27 (AFP) — Three demonstrators were killed and an undetermined number were wounded today when police opened fire on more than 1,000 protesters in central Khartoum, a Western source in the Sudanese capital said. The source, contacted by telephone from Cairo, said police opened fire after using tear gas against the protesters.

An earlier report from Khartoum said the unrest started immediately after President Ja'far Numayri left for a visit to the United States.

The protests, during which hotels and storefronts in the city center were stoned, involved members of the Moslem Brotherhood organization, many of whose leaders were recently rounded up in a surprise move by President Numayri, the reports said.

Eyewitnesses said some protests began earlier today at the Islamic University in Omdurman, the city which faces Khartoum on the west bank of the Nile. In a surprise announcement early today, the authorities in Khartoum announced that the university was closing immediately for the summer recess, which should normally have begun in late April.

Police arrested several dozen people during the protests, a Western source said.

The riots came two days after Marshal Numayri's announcement that all government subsidies, including those on basic consumer necessities, were to be ended.

Marshal Numayri's visit to the United States, which will include talks with President Ronald Reagan on Monday, comes amid continuing civil strife in southern Sudan and a massive build-up of starving refugees from neighboring Ethiopia in border regions to the east.

Sudan receives more aid from the United States than any other African country.

SUNA: Khartoum 'Completely Calm'

JN271847 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1815 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) — Groups of students staged small demonstrations this morning. These demonstrators were joined by infiltrating, destructive elements that raised slogans hostile to the World Bank and the IMF.

The demonstrators roamed some of Khartoum's streets. Police forces continued to closely watch the demonstrators, but were forced to disperse them when the infiltrated elements attacked private and public vehicles and banks, hurling stones at them. A decree was issued today closing the Institute of Technology and the [Khartoum] branch of Cairo University. Groups from Omdurman's Islamic University staged demonstrations in front of the People's Assembly in Omdurman, raising slogans against the World Bank and the IMF. The demonstrators were dispersed when police intervened to prevent destructive elements from stoning vehicles. Yesterday evening, the university's council of deans decided to close the university until next July, when the summer vacation ends.

It is believed that infiltrators from the Muslim Brotherhood, whose leaders have been expelled recently from legislative, executive, and judicial organs, have played a role in organizing these demonstrations, which included unemployed persons, juveniles, and vagabonds whom roam the markets.

President Numayri had previously revealed the Muslim Brotherhood's conspiracy and attempts to dominate the people's livelihood and the state by infiltrating into various state organs. He also spoke about the acts of sabotage that students supporting the Muslim Brotherhood had carried out against their fellow students at Khartoum University, which led to the discovery of their role and the closure of the university.

The capital is completely calm, and the situation is normal.

AFP: 'Violence' Continues

NC281104 Paris AFP in English 1051 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, March 28 (AFP) — Violence broke out again in the Sudanese capital Khartoum today following yesterday's dem-

onstrations over food price rises in which three protesters are reported to have died in clashes with police, according to diplomatic sources here.

The sources had no details of the scale of the latest disturbances, saying only that demonstrators had gathered in parts of the city center and that shops which had opened as usual this morning pulled down the shutters.

Western sources said that at least three people died and dozens were injured in yesterday's protests, which erupted just after President Ja'far Numayri left for a 10-day visit to the United States. Police used teargas and fired on demonstrators, the sources said.

AFP: Army Called In

NC281227 Paris AFP in English 1214 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, March 28 (AFP) -- Two petrol stations were set alight by demonstrators in the Sudanese capital Khartoum today on the second day of protests over price increases on basic foods, according to witnesses contacted by telephone from here.

The Army has been called in to assist anti-riot police quell the protest, the witnesses said.

At least three people died and dozens were injured in clashes with police yesterday, according to Western sources here. Witnesses said "several thousand" people took part in the demonstrations, which began just after Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri left for a 10-day visit to the United States.

The price of petrol was put up by more than 50 per cent in early February.

Demonstrators shouting anti-government slogans also attacked the Khartoum markets, which was surrounded by police, the witnesses said.

Muslim Brotherhood Leaders Ordered To Surrender

JN281458 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar (SUNA) -- The state security organ here today made an announcement calling on Muslim Brotherhood leaders to surrender themselves at the nearest police station upon hearing this announcement. The organ named 17 leaders who, it said, were involved in the recent disturbances and acts of sabotage, but who disappeared before they could be arrested. The organ called on the citizens to cooperate by passing any information they have on these leaders.

Commerce Minister on Flour, Corn Supplies

JN271928 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) -- The quantity of flour now available in the country and what is expected to arrive soon is estimated at 106,342 tons. Announcing this today, Yusuf Muhammad 'Abdallah, minister of state for commerce, industry, and cooperation, explained that 17,000 tons of flour are now available in the country and that a U.S. ship carrying 27,342 tons is expected to arrive on 1 April. Furthermore, 27,000 tons will be obtained from the U.S. [assistance] program. The minister said that under the food aid program, Sudan will receive 11,000 tons from France, 7,000 tons from Italy, and 17,000 tons from the EC.

The minister also explained that his ministry is currently holding contacts with various world nations and organizations to ensure the continuous supply of flour and corn to the country in view of the fact that famine, drought, and the influx of large numbers of refugees have increased the rate of consumption of flour.

The minister also explained that the quantity of corn currently available in the country and what is expected to arrive in the next 3 weeks is estimated at 162,746 tons. This quantity is sufficient to meet the mills' requirements for the next 4 months. The minister said that 38,066 tons, including the Japanese grant, are currently available, and that 119 tons and 30,867 more tons are expected to arrive in the country in the next 3 weeks [figures as received].

The minister added that $25 million from the U.S. program will be used in purchasing 125,000 tons. With this purchase, he said, the mills will meet their corn requirements until the middle of October 1985.

People's Assembly Discusses Report on Refugees

JN271902 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 27 Mar (SUNA) -- The People's Assembly today resumed discussion of the special committee's report on the conditions of refugees in Sudan. The report was presented to the People's Assembly yesterday by Hasan Ibrahim [words indistinct] the controller of the People's Assembly and chairman of the committee.

Minister of Internal Affairs 'Ali Hasan Ibrahim commented on the discussion. He praised the committee's report and the efforts exerted to prepare it, asserting the reality of the positive aspects of the refugees' presence, as mentioned in the report, despite the immense pressure the refugees have created on the country's various facilities.

The minister asserted his support for what is included in the report and its identity with the state's general policy toward the refugees. He pointed out that a number of the committee's recommendations have been implemented, and the rest of them are being implemented now.

Peace Committee Chairman Calls For Dialogue

JN271921 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1720 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar (SUNA) -- Sirr al-Khitm al-Khalifah, chairman of the Hgher National Peace Committee, has called on the brother outlaws to recover their senses, consider the seriousness and possible consequences of the situation, abandon violence, and have mercy upon innocent citizens and children, women, and old people. He also called on them to come to

common terms in order to preserve national unity, our heritage, and our soil. This came in his speech at the committee's first meeting here today. He called on the outlaws to have a sense of responsibility, to adhere to patriotism, to be concerned about the country's interests and reputation, and to adopt the principle of dialogue instead of fighting.

Al-Khalifah also said that leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri's step to form this committee proves his determination and that of the responsible authorities to settle the differences among the citizens of the one homeland through wisdom and good advice. He also pointed out that this committee includes people with experience and skill, which will greatly affect efforts to draw up plans for a peace dialogue so that the best formula will be reached for guaranteeing accord and peace, and achieving national unity among the Sudanese citizens.

Al-Khalifah also said that the clauses of the decision to form this committee are comprehensive and sufficient for accomplishing the task. He affirmed that the committee will always be ready to receive every opinion and experience, pointing out that the committee's responsibility is the responsibility of all citizens, a fact that makes it incumbent on every citizen to try his best. He added that the speech the leader president made on national accord the central leadership last Saturday has raised hopes and increased confidence, a fact that will strengthen the committee and prompt it to assume its duties. He added that the committee will adhere to the principles of the revolution [words indistinct].

Opposition Spokesman on Numayri's Visit to U.S.

EA271629 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The leader of the May Regime is expected to leave the Sudanese Capital, Khartoum, for the USA today.

Commenting on this, a spokesman for the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] said: The visit is part of a grand plan by the USA to choke the people's revolution in the Sudan. This, he said, will not succeed, because the root cause of the problem is Numayri himself and until Numayri goes there will be no solution to the current revoutionary armed struggle.

SPLA Radio Commentary Reviews Numayri's Situation

EA271943 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Comrade Omilok Fudur commentary]

[Text] We have said time and again that Numayri does not have the interests of the Sudanese people at heart. Numayri is only interested in power, whatever it costs the Sudanese people. During his 16 years of barbaric rule, the masses suffered from severe hunger, disease, oppression, exploitation, humiliation and violations in human rights and dignity.

Numayri, since May 1969 [words indistinct] is to remain in power. He frequently used one group of the society to oppress the Sudanese people and once he achieved his objective he used another group to crush the same group that was formerly his ally. He did all this to prolong his dictatorial rule on the Sudanese masses. Therefore, it is a known fact that since 1969 the Sudanese people have never (?learned) anything. The political scene in the Sudan has been characterized by bloody confrontation.

We also have told Numayri time and again that the SPLA-SPLM [Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement] is not interested in talking to his decaying [words indistinct] regime. Despite this, he formed a so-called national peace committee.

We must say at this juncture that the SPLA-SPLM is (?pledged) to liberate the Sudan and to establish a united democratic socialist Sudan. These two objectives cannot be achieved unless the archaic system of Numayri is destroyed. The SPLA-SPLM will surely do that by persistent pursuance of the armed struggle, not by the so-called peace committee. The shallowness of Numayri's understanding of these objectives has been manifested in the formation of the so-called national peace committee that is supposed to negotiate with the SPLA-SPLM. We, today, want to retaliate [as heard] that there is no basis for negotiations with Numayri, because of the following two reasons:

A. Numayri lacks credibility. He never respects any agreement or treaty unless the agreement serves his personal interest. The Sudanese people can testify to this fact. His agreement with the communists in 1969, with the southern Sudanese bourgeoisie in Addis Ababa in 1972, with the ANSAR and the Muslim brothers in the so-called national reconciliations in 1977. All these agreements were unilaterally torn by Numayri when the time suited him. To Numayri there are no permanent agreements, but only his permanent interest to remain in power.

The second reason why we cannot talk with Numayri is because the SPLA-SPLM is committed to build a new Sudan based on equality, justice, freedom, progress, and respect for human dignity. These cannot be achieved in a coalition with Numayri but only in a free, united, democratic, socialist Sudan. Thus, when the dictatorial regime of Numayri is overthrown, all forms of oppression, exploitation and general neglect of our beloved people would be brought to an end. Therefore, the SPLA-SPLM cannot compromise the interest of the Sudanese people for a first vice presidency or any other petty promises. The only thing the SPLA-SPLM wants from Numayri is to hand over power to the masses. The SPLA-SPLM is confident that it is only a matter of time before the masses win power. The sooner Numayri relinquishes power, the better, for, after all, the objective conditions that will make the SPLA victorious are there.

The so-called national peace committee is a ploy that will fail, because it had the following defects:

Numayri formed this committee with the idea of solving the so-called southern problem as referred to in the committee's terms of reference. This is a fundamental misconception and a great lack of understanding of the nature and the problems that caused this present conflict. It is not only the southern Sudanese that are fighting in the ranks of the SPLA-SPLM. It is the Sudanese masses fighting against this dictatorial regime. There

are northerners, southerners, easterners and westerners. The SPLA-SPLM is not a regional movement. It is a national movement, which represents the aspirations of the Sudanese People, whether in the west, east, south, north, or center. Thus, the present struggle is that of all the backward areas of the Sudan against an oppressive and exploitative regime of Numayri. Truly, the SPLA presently is waging the war in the south, that is, at war zone number one, but by necessity the armed struggle will engulf the whole Sudan in a short time. Therefore, Numayri's so-called national peace committee has started from a wrong perspective. Since this committee is meant to find a solution to the so-called southern problem, then the committee is for sure tackling the wrong problem. This is an absolute indication that Numayri and his clique have totally failed to identify the real causes and the nature of the conflict and therefore any proposals, however brilliant these proposals may be, will be worthless and valueless.

We again want to retaliate [as heard] that the problem today is not the so-called southern problem, but the problem of the Sudan. As the SPLA manifesto states, the problem is the lack of democracy, equality, and freedom. It is the lack of economic and social justice. It is the lack of respect for human rights and dignity. It is a nationalities and religious question. It is the necessity of radical reconstruction of the power of the central government. It is the problem of uneven development in the Sudan, where vast regions of the Sudan in the south, west, east,and far north find themselves as undeveloped territories to the relatively developed central region of Sudan. It is the racism that various minority [word indistinct]in Khartoum have constitutionalized. This is the nature of the present conflict in the Sudan. It is this conflict that needs permanent [word indistinct] solution. We are confident, beyond doubt, that Numayri's so-called national peace committee cannot provide concrete and correct solutions to the present conflict, since it has already started from a mistaken perspective, the so-called southern problem.

The committee is mandated to find solutions to only the southern problem, while the real national issues that are the bedrock of the present conflict are purposely ignored by Numayri. This is a major defect in this committee.

The second other flaw in this committee is that there is no time limit for it. I state the committee will report monthly to Numayri, but for how long? Will this committee continue working for ever? Is there a time limit? By this lack of time limit we know the lack of seriousness that is attached to this committee.

The third defect in this committee is that Numayri has given power of confirmation to recommendations of the committee to the three southern regional assemblies. The question that poses itself is: How can the recommendations and confirmation by the three southern regional assemblies be national? By the present set up in the Sudan, there are eight regional and one national assembly. That disqualifies the assemblies from participating in the exercise. By what means will the recommendations be binding to the whole Sudan if other assemblies are denied the right to discuss the recommendations of the so-called national peace committee?

The fourth defect in this committee is that the preamble for the establishment of the committee itself refers to an Islamic, Arab, and African nation. This was the very amendment to the definition of the Sudan that was rejected in the National Assembly in July 1984. We do not need to say a lot about this. The SPLA-SPLM wants to establish a united, democratic, socialist Sudan.

The fifth defect in the peace committee is its membership itself. Over three quarters of the committee members are from the infamous SSU [Sudanese Socialist Union] and thus are stooges of Numayri. The SSU is a hollow organization which has no effect in Numayri's system. This organization was one time communist-oriented, then became pan-Arabist oriented,and finally became an Islamic fundamentalist-oriented organization. It is an organization which has no political direction. The SSU has no credibility, just as its leader, Numayri. The members of the SSU in this committee will toe the line of Numayri and thus it is a waste of time to talk to them.

The sixth defect of this committee is that the chairman for it, Mr Sirr al-Khatim al-Khalifah, has no credibility. This man has no sense of direction. He has sold his honor and respectability to Numayri long time ago. Time has proved that he is nobody but a yes-man of Numayri. He cannot initiate any constructive ideas, because Numayri would fire him. He is not the same Sirr al-Khatim al-Khalifah that the Sudanese people knew in the 1964 October revolution. His dealings with Numayri have been proved shady and suspicious.

The SPLA-SPLM is aware of Numayri's objectives and motives behind the formation of this committee and these are as follows:

1. Numayri is trying to give the impression abroad that he is in serious search for peace. This is to get sympathy from the western world, especially the United States. But the real truth is that Numayri is a warmonger, for the very day he announced his unilateral cease-fire, he sent out a battalion to attack our forces. That battalion was annihilated by the SPLA force at Jokau. Numayri is desperate to get aid — military or financial — from the West and other reactionary countries. Thus he must try to pose as a man of peace.

2 The second reason why he formed the so-called national peace committee is to divert the attention of the Sudanese people from the activities of the SPLA-SPLM to the hollow internal peace effort.

3. Since Numayri thinks the present conflict is a southern problem, he is preparing for a similar Abel Muzorewa settlement of the then Rhodesia-Zimbabwe. This is reflected in the composition of the committee members. Whereas the northern part of the committee is solidly made up of Numayri's henchmen, the southern part is a divided team.

The SPLA-SPLM cannot be surprised by Numayri's incapability of analyzing concretely the nature of the present conflict. The formation of such a useless committee is to reach an internal settlement with the same southern Sudanese bourgeoisie of 1972. But all this would be from a mistaken perspective.

The SPLA-SPLM has consistently rejected any dialogue with Numayri and his gang, because of the reasons mentioned above. What is necessary at this stage is to overthrow this system and

for the Sudanese people to discuss ways Numayri can hand power to the people.

The chairman of the SPLM and the Commander in Chief of the SPLA, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, has announced to the Sudanese masses on the 22d of March 1985 over radio SPLA that the SPLA cannot negotiate with Numayri but with any military committee that the Sudanese Armed Forces can form. In his speech he urged the members of the Armed Forces to organize in committees that can initiate dialogue with the SPLA committees. He also urged all the nationalists in the Armed Forces to join the SPLA so that we could build a new Sudan.

In addition, the SPLA-SPLM is ready to talk to the Sudanese people through their organizations, such as the professional and trade union. The SPLA-SPLM is ready to talk to the peasants, workers, lawyers, engineers, doctors, students, etc. The SPLA-SPLM cannot talk to Numayri nor to to the so-called national peace committee, nor to the members of the SSU.

The armed struggle continues.

SPLA-SPLM Again Rejects Talks With Numayri

EA271836 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The precarious state of the regime of Ja'far Numayri in Khartoum is largely the making of the SPLA-SPLM . This was stated by Major Doctor Riak (Magier Teng) and Comrade Atem (Niak) Atem.

In an interview with the French news agency AFP, Maj (Teng) and Comrade Atem (Niak) repeated the rejection by the leader of the SPLA-SPLM, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, of Numayri's offer of negotiations. These moves by Numayri, Comrade Atem said, were desigend to give the May regime time to rearm and make political capital out of the claim that the Sudanese problem was a southern problem.

Referring to the so-called 30-member peace committee set up by Numayri last week, Maj (Teng) dismissed the committee as a panic committee set up in the face of the repeated defeat of government forces and the regime's total lack of control over Upper Nile and Bahr al-Ghazal Provinces and Eastern Equatoria countryside.

Maj (Teng) went on to say that the political movements inside Sudan, such as the former Ummah Party, the Democratic Unionist Party, and others had already begun secret talks with the SPLM in recognition of its status as a political power inside the country.

In a statement to radio SPLA this morning concerning the so-called national peace committee, Maj Dr Riak (Magier Teng) said. It cannot provide concrete and correct solutions to the current conflict since it perceives the conflict as a southern problem. He went on to say that the so-called national peace committee will only get the recommendations from the three southern assemblies according to the (?primary rules) of the establishment of the committee. Why were the other regional assemblies in other parts of the Sudan not included, he asked.

TUNISIA

Libya's Al-Turayki Continues Tunis Visit

Meets With Mzali

LD271318 Tripoli JANA in English 0939 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tunisia, Rajab 4, March 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Tunisian Premier Mohamed Mzali met here yesterday evening with the Secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau Dr al-Turayki now taking part in the 83d session of the Arab foreign ministers council.

The meeting, attended by the Tunisian public employment minister and Jamahiriyah's general commissioner in Tunis, took up the bolstering and increase of joint co-operation in all fields and followed up the implementing of economic intergration programs as well as preparations for the forthcoming meeting of the joint higher committee.

Received by Bourguiba

LD271324 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba today received Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Arab Libyan Jamahiriyah, who was accompanied by the Libyan representative in Tunis, Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Harari. Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki conveyed to his excellency the president greetings and good wishes from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Bourguiba Receives Somali Foreign Minister

LD272138 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba today received Abdurahman Jama Barre, the Somali foreign minister, who conveyed to him a personal message from the Somali president. The message dealt with the relations between the two countries, current Arab issues, the latest development in the African Horn, and the Middle East problem. [passage indistinct]

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Meets With CSSR Trade Minister

EA280844 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia] Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, today met and held talks with Comrade Bohumil Urban, the foreign trade minister of the CSSR. During a ceremony held at the comrade secretary general's office this afternoon, Comrade Urban briefed our comrade revolutionary leader on the recent fourth Ethiopia-CSSR economic, scientific, technical, and trade cooperation joint commissions meeting, on the work done, its outcome, and on his visits and talks with his counterparts. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam thanked the CPCZ [Czechoslovak Communist Party] and the CSSR Government and people for their continuous assistance to revolutionary Ethiopia.

Present during the ceremony were Comrades Wollie Chekol, WPE Central Committee member and external trade minister, and Yewond Wesen Hailu, WPE Central Committee member and revolutionary Ethiopia's ambassador to the CSSR.

Loan Agreement Signed

EA280850 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] A 100 million birr long-term loan agreement providing for the various development works in revolutionary Ethiopia was signed this morning with the CSSR. The agreement was signed at the end of the fourth economic, scientific, technical, and trade joint commission meeting by Comrade Wollie Chekol, WPE Central Committee member, external trade minister, and chairman of the Ethiopian-Czechoslovak joint commission, and Comrade Bohumil Urban, the Czechoslovak foreign trade minister and chairman of the Ethiopian-Czechoslovak joint commission, on behalf of their respective countries.

Under the agreement, Czechoslovakia will supply most of the equipment to be used for the construction of the Melka Wakena hydroelectric project. The first of this project's turbines will be operational in 1986. The agreement will make it possible to build a huge polyester mill, a pipe producing plant, and two flour mills; to expand the Addis tire factory, the Mojo tannery, and the meat and meat products factory; and to carry out research on various mineral sectors.

A trade agreement for 1985 and a basic long-term agreement for 1986 to 1990 were also signed.

TPLF Claims Killing, Wounding 300 Soldiers 20 Mar

EA271647 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] A statement released in Mogadishu today by the Tigre People's Liberation Front, TPLF, said their forces launched a major attack on Abyssinian forces stationed in Welco Province, on 20 March 1985. A spokesman of the Front's office in Mogadishu, Somalia, said the front's forces had killed or wounded over 300 Abyssinian soldiers. The intrepid fighters of the Front also captured 18 soldiers and 50 small arms and destroyed 7 tanks and 2 military vehicles.

KENYA

Envoy to Malawi Presents Credentials to Banda

EA260159 Nairobi KNA in English 1140 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Summary] Nairobi March 25 (KNA) — Kenya's high commissioner to Malawi, Alfred Machayo, has presented his letters of credence to President Banda at Zomba Malawi. Mr Machayo is also high commissioner to Zambia, resident in Lusaka.

UGANDA

Muwanga Hosts P rty for Departing DPRK Commandant

LD260227 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] The vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, has hosted a farewell party in honor of the outgoing chief commandant of the North Korean experts in Uganda, Major General (Lin Tok). The party, which was hosted at the vice president's residence in (?Kololo), was attended by cabinet ministers and diplomats.

Mano River Union Ministerial Meeting Suspended

AB272235 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] For the first time in its 12-year existence, the Mano River Union [MRU] was today forced to suspend its meeting abruptly. In fact, the 11th MRU ministerial meeting suspended its deliberations, which were scheduled to end today, 27 March, at the Palace of Nations in Conakry. The reasons for the unexpected suspension of the meeting were due to the poor quality of the preparatory meeting of experts held in Freetown from 4 to 12 (?March) in two meetings, the proliferation of priority projects launched by the MRU, the slow progress on the projects embarked upon during the past 10 years, and, finally, the small impact of the MRU's achievements on the working populations. This is the first time the MRU has suspended any of its meetings.

As an immediate step, the 11th ministerial session decided to set up a 6-member ministerial commission to evaluate all the projects and determine whether they are viable or credible. Each country will also appoint one expert to the committee. This restricted ministerial commission will meet from 2 to 7 May 1985 in Freetown. This meeting will decide whether or not an extraordinary ministerial meeting should be summoned.

Meanwhile, the Conakry meeting has decided that activities of the Secretariat should continue normally under the financial management of the country hosting the headquarters of the union, that is, Sierra Leone.

To facilitate the work of the restricted commission, the Secretariat has been asked to place all the necessary documents at its disposal not later than 22 April to enable this commission to begin its consultations.

Concerning the MRU's finances, which constitute a serious bottleneck within the union — and this is the case with several African subregional organizations — the ministers expressed their concern over the irregular contributions by member-states who have been called upon to regularize their contributions and pay up their annual dues regularly. The Secretariat was asked to update the accounts of the union for the years 1982-1983 and 1983-1984.

With this poor balance sheet of the MRU, is it possible to be optimistic about the future of this union? In our opinion, one can be optimistic since the union is born out of the political desire of the leaders of the three countries.

However, it is true that apart from this political desire, we should do away with some of the nationalism which might cripple the union. Rather, what is needed is nationalism that must accept the demands for a restructuring of the union, following the admission of the Republic of Guinea. There is also the need to reduce the staff strength and to gear efforts toward training personnel. There is also the need to reduce the cost of the projects by being realistic and in particular to evaluate these projects, bearing in mind the world economic recession affecting all countries and in particular those of the Third World [words indistinct]

BURKINA

Joint Cooperation Commission With Ghana Opens

AB271733 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The fifth Burkina-Ghana Joint Cooperation Commission opened this morning at the conference hall of the Sonafin [expansion unknown] in Ouagadougou. Established in 1971, this commission, in spite of the division created by colonization, has continued to make efforts to intensify relations between the two countries. The current session, in fact, is going to critically reevaluate this cooperation. This was contained in the welcome address delivered by Comrade Nongma Ernest Ouedraogo, minister of internal affairs and security and leader of the Burkinabe delegation, at the opening session. He stated that the points that will be examined will, among other things, deal with transportation, trade, health issues, and the demarcation of their common border. The importance of the topics to be discussed was emphasized by Comrade Nongma Ernest Ouedraogo in his speech:

[Begin Ouedraogo recording] The present session, which is the fifth of its kind, marks an important stage in the qualitative development of relations between our countries and our peoples. In fact, since the launching of the revolutionary progress on 4 August 1983, friendly relations of cooperation with your country have continued to develop positively. These relations are so good that they left no sector out.

How can this be otherwise when we know that the Ghanaian and Burkinabe revolutions have a common history bequeathed to them by several decades of colonial and neocolonial domination? It is therefore only right that the leaders of our two countries have decided to organize periodic joint military maneuvers with a view to preventing any possible aggression that international imperialism will try to perpetrate against any one of our two peoples.

But beyond military cooperation, which underlines the consolidation of the two revolutions, it is necessary that we explore ways of arriving at a viable economic integration. These should be based on updated protocol agreements and should develop according to pragmatic approaches clearly outlined by common agreement. Comrade Minister, it is only at this price that we can transform our joint cooperation commission into a genuine instrument of socioeconomic development for the benefit of our respective peoples.

Since the creation of this commission in 1971, bilateral meetings have been held and efforts have been made from both sides to intensify cooperation between Ghana and Burkina. We should, however, admit today that a lot remains to be done in view of the expectations of our peoples. It is therefore urgent that we should try to map out new and dynamic prospects in the future for a more effective and mutually beneficial cooperation. [end recording]

For his part, the leader of the Ghanaian delegation, Dr Obed Asamoah, Ghana's secretary for foreign affairs, stressed that efforts have been made during the past years but a lot remains to be done to achieve the objectives the commission has set for itself. He notably cited the existence of custom barriers, an issue for which he proposed the most favored country formula. Dr Asamoah also dwelt at length on the nonimplementation of the project of supplying Burkina with electricity by Ghana, and the difficulties encountered in the exchange of consumer goods. Finally, the leader of the Ghanaian delegation spoke about the idea of pan-Africanism, which was so dear to Kwame Nkrumah.

Lingani Comments on Military Maneuvers With Ghana

AB272158 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Press conference granted by Defense Minister Jean-Baptiste Lingani in Ouagadougou; questioners not identified — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Comrade Commander in Chief of the High Command of the national Armed Forces, you were in Ghana for the Ghana-Burkina joint military exercise codenamed "Teamwork." What lessons can we draw from this joint military maneuver?

[Lingani] Thank you comrades of the press for giving me the opportunity today to report on the "Teamwork" maneuver. I would like to remind you that this is the second time we have organized such a maneuver after the one we had codenamed "Bold Union." As the name shows, the "Teamwork" maneuver was a joint exercise and the maneuver itself took place in a region 150 km east of Accra on an island called Dwarf Island.

The main objective of this maneuver was to dislodge a dissident group which took hold of that island and had the aim of politically and militarily destabilizing the Ghanaian regime. Of course, you will understand that in such a situation we in Burkina cannot sit unconcerned, and that is why there was this military cooperation between the two armies in this operation. There is no need to dwell at length on the maneuver itself since you, the reporters, covered it fully during the exercises themselves.

However, what we can say is that this maneuver was really teamwork, as the codename indicates. It was a highly successful operation in several respects. First, from the purely military aspect, contrary to what people might have thought, language differences did not constitute any problem at all, especially when we know that military language is a universal language and a technical language; therefore, even with signs we understood one another. The Ghanaian troops, like the Burkinabe troops, were able to demonstrate their operational capabilities on the field. As far as materials were concerned, we experienced a serious test, because, as you saw, the field was a very difficult one; it was sandy, compartmented, and covered with shrubs; and vehicles and men underwent a very useful test. Still, from the military point of view, we were able to note during this exercise a greater cohesion between the various forces involved in the exercise, cohesion between the Burkinabe troops themselves and then cohesion between Ghanaian and Burkinabe troops. It was an exceptionally cohesive operation.

As you know, our doctrine is based essentially on people's defense, and we must say that we noted a very satisfying experience on the Ghanaian side, for during this exercise we saw a very active participation of their Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR]. The CDR's organized almost all the people in the region of the exercise either to give information to the friendly troops or to give various supplies to the troops. This is something important and positive that should be emphasized.

As far as the political aspect of this exercise is concerned, there too we had an important impact, for we once again demonstrated that between the Burkinabe and Ghanaian peoples, between Ghana and Burkina Faso, and between the Ghanaian troops and the Burkinabe troops, something positive is being done.

[Question] Comrade Commander, "Teamwork" took place at a time when fighting is going on in Africa and in the rest of the world, when people are searching for ways of liberating themselves. In this international political and ideological context, what significance can one give to this military exercise that Burkina Faso has just undertaken with Ghana?

[Lingani] In the political and ideological context, we can be placed on the same plane with Ghana, and there the answer is clear: A revolution is born in Ghana and another one is born in Burkina Faso. The two revolutions have the same problems and the same preoccupations. In this context, it is quite normal to set up a front within which the two revolutions can carry out their struggle. That is precisely what we are doing now. We know that our two revolutions disturb some people, and we are aware that we annoy some people. We have more or less been told that. In the same way, envoys of some foreign powers while on a visit to some neighboring countries have been sending us more or less warning signals, and we understood the meaning of those signals. In this context, it is quite normal that in Burkina and in Ghana, the two revolutions organize themselves to support one another and use the means at our disposal to defend and consolidate our two revolutions in the interests of our two peoples.

[Question] Comrade Commander, certainly, an operation of such a scope demands a lot of money. I know that in some quarters, some people are worried and are thinking that a lot of money has gone into this operation. Could you give us an idea of the amount spent for this "Teamwork" maneuver?

[Lingani] Comrade, you are right to ask such a question because I know that a lot of speculation and supposition are being made. It is not even stretching it too far to say that some people think we have diverted billions to organize the maneuvers. I will therefore ask the comrade who was responsible for the logistics to give you an idea of what this maneuver cost us.

[Unidentified officer] This "Teamwork" maneuver, contrary to what some people might think, cost us in all 8 million CFA francs. This amount was used for the purchasing of items needed for the operation, such as food supplies during the operation.

[Reporter] Burkina and Ghana have come together to organize military maneuvers. Can we expect such military maneuvers with other countries apart from Ghana?

[Lingani] Comrade, in this context we have always been prepared and ready to cooperate with others. We have always been the first to open the door of cooperation in all fields, and even in the field of military cooperation, which seems to be a taboo field, we have always opened our doors to other countries, especially to neighboring countries, to organize such maneuvers and military cooperation. Of course, right now things are working well with Ghana, but it is right to think that in the near future we will have other types of military cooperation with neighboring countries. In fact, we are ready and we are waiting. We are even ready to take the initiative in this field, and if others take the initiative, we would be ready to welcome them favorably.

[Question] Comrade Commander, it is certain that some neighboring countries are worried about what is happening between Burkina Faso and Ghana. If one of these neighboring countries were to invite us for any maneuvers, what would your reaction be? Because, in my mind, that would be a way of testing our combat readiness. Would you turn down such an invitation or would you like to go and see what that maneuver is like?

[Lingani] The best way of allaying the concern of our neighbors is to respond to their invitation for a common military maneuver such as the one we organized with Ghana. Now, you want to know what our reaction will be? I have already indicated that we will favorably respond to that invitation. I think your fear that they will take the opportunity to test our combat readiness and operational capabilities is unfounded. If they are able to test our aptitude, then we can also test theirs. I say that if we were to be invited for such maneuvers, we are ready to cooperate and respond favorably to it.

[Question] Captain Gouba, you were the general organizer on the Burkinabe side. Did you experience some unexpected hitches or any unforseen incidents that hindered the smooth running of the maneuvers?

[Gouba] Apart from the tanker that began to worry us from Tamale [northern Ghana], we did not have other problems. The tanker joined us in Kumasi 24 hours later. Apart from this problem, we did not have any major problem. The supplies followed the troops; soldiers had their food at the appropriate time, and this boosted their morale. The result was that the exercise took place under very good conditions.

[Question] We are going to ask Lieutenant Kere to tell us about the participation of our paratroopers in Ghana. Our elements were able to courageously defend our colors as far as their intervention was concerned. What is the lesson to be drawn from such exercise on their part?

[Kere] Concerning the airborne operation itself, we can say that we distinguished ourselves very well with our Ghanaian friends. An airborne operation is very necessary and vital and there are two phases of it: jumping from the plane to land and beginning the maneuvers. There is therefore much risk in this field. Concerning our paratrooper unit, we went through the first phase without any problems. We landed safely without the least scratch. This is very important as far as airborne operations are concerned. As for the maneuvers on the ground, we went through it with the infantry units like everybody else. What is important is that nobody got injured on the Burkinabe side, and we conducted the maneuvers up to the end without any problems.

[Reporter] Comrade Commander, rumors in the city say 10 soldiers died during the maneuvers. Before drawing the general conclusion on the "Teamwork" maneuver, what do you have to say about this number of casualties?

[Lingani] I have not been informed about any casualties caused by the maneuvers. But as most of the comrades here have said, this maneuver did not cause any casualties. In fact, there were neither human nor material losses. We simply had one soldier slightly injured. This was caused by a vehicle ending up in a ditch and the impact gave him a slight injury to his forehead. That was not serious at all; he was given a few stiches and now everything is quite well. That is all we had, on our side. On the Ghanaian side, too, to my knowledge there were no casualties. So let us not talk about dead soldiers. I think it is once again one of those rumors. To give a general conclusion to this maneuver, I would say, as far as we are concerned, it was a success in all its aspects. And we once again take the opportunity to repeat once more that our maneuvers should not cause any worry to anybody. If there are people who are worried, they have their reasons to be worried; but we organize our maneuvers in order to train our men, our troops, to ensure their permanent operational capabilities. It is our duty and we are always going to see to that, and no neighboring country should be worried or feel threatened because Burkina and Ghana have held a joint military exercise. We expect these neighbors to invite us to joint maneuvers and they will see whether or not we will respond. We have organized these maneuvers and we shall always do so because this genuinely responds to the interests of our two armies, because this responds to the political objectives outlined by the heads of state of Ghana and Burkina Faso, and because this responds to and safeguards the major interests of our two revolutions.

Beyond these maneuvers, we are going to organize intensive exchanges between Ghanaian and Burkinabe soldiers, at all the levels — from the ordinary soldiers to high officers — we are going to intensify exchanges between the various category of soldiers from Burkina and Ghana. This will strengthen this necessary cohesion between our two armed forces and prepare them better for the accomplishment of the common mission that could be assigned to them.

Sankara Receives Cambodian Delegation 26 March
AB261425 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The comrade president of the Faso this morning received (Binh Monthi), interim foreign affairs minister [title as heard] of democratic Cambodia. The invitation of a Cambodian delegation by the Burkinabe authorities is in accordance with the desire of the two countries to get to know each other better and to strengthen relations. Following the audience, Mr (Monthi) expressed admiration over the successes achieved by the Burkinabe people. He also recalled the history of his country, which had suffered foreign aggression until 1979 and the rigors of the Pol Pot regime.

GUINEA

French Cooperation Minister Stops Over, Meets Conte
AB272134 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the minister of external relations for development and international cooperation, made a stopover in Conakry today and was received at 0930 by the head of state, Colonel Lansana Conte. The two personalities held important and fruitful talks which were preceeded by a lengthy face-to-face discussion. The talks between President Lansana Conte and Christian Nucci centered on problems of bilateral cooperation between Guinea and France, African issues, and on the international situation. The talks were held in an atmosphere of perfect cordiality.

IVORY COAST

Paper on Dioulo 'Fleeing Like a Coward'
AB271145 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 27 Mar 85 pp 1, 28

[Editorial by Auguste Miremont]

[Text] There is definitely going to be no end to the affair involving the National Agricultural Development Bank [BNDA] and the General Export-Import Company [Cogexim]. Emmanuel Dioulo has fled. And from Brussels, where he is now, he has issued a statement through his lawyer, Jacques Verges. And once again there are threats: "We are going to publish on 10 May a 'white paper' in order to state very clearly the responsibilities of all those involved...because no one is untouchable," said Cogexim's fugitive managing director and his lawyer. Jacques Verges added to this statement by saying that "the judges who delivered this judgement (that is the verdict concerning the 7 billion francs) have since been transferred."

These statements alone clearly demonstrate the attitude Emmanuel Dioulo and his lawyer have adopted and will continue to adopt: lies and more lies to defend oneself, and, if these fail, the use of blackmail. These are the Cogexim managing director's usual practices, which have achieved no results up until now but which remain Mr Dioulo's preferred weapons. It is a fact that when one becomes accustomed to such methods, when one knows of no other methods, and when the said methods have raised one to some financial height, it may seem difficult for one to abandon them in favor of ones offered by legal means. Emmanuel Dioulo is in such a situation: swindling, bluster, and blackmail were so successfully used by him to rapidly achieve some of his ambitions that it would have been difficult for him to change his attitude and to "recreate another" Emmanuel Dioulo who is shrewd, intelligent, and honest.

In fact, before fleeing like a coward — a flight that clearly confirms his guilt, if it is still necessary to prove this — Mr Dioulo had used blackmail in order to divert the course of justice and had addressed several letters to the president of the Republic in which he accused many of our officials and cadres. This delaying tactic failed to achieve the desire result. And yet, persevering on the same path, Mr Dioulo has now specified in Brussels his intention to publish a "white paper" in order to set forth the responsibilities of all those involved. What more is he going to say that he has not already said to no avail? What responsibilities is he going to set forth apart from his own in this affair of a debt owed to a financial institution, of embezzlement of securities, abuse of confidence, and swindling? What other lies is he going to add to the numerous ones that he and his accomplices have already told, such as the one concerning "the transfer of the judges involved in the verdict of the BNDA-Cogexim case?" Emmanuel Dioulo knows that all this is completely false since Judge Couloud is still doing his job in Abidjan and that no judge has been punished!

Emmanuel Dioulo also knows that blackmail cannot now or ever dominate Ivory Coast's national life! Why then these attempts to intimidate? Should we believe that he is still receiving bad advice and, this time, from a lawyer? To Ivorians, who do not know this French lawyer who has been chosen by Mr Dioulo, it will be enough to say that he is always prepared to defend any cause and singularly the causes disregarded by his other colleagues: This lawyer — who in France defended Klaus Barbie, one of the great Nazi criminals and torturers of World War II — did not hesitate during the trial to fling mud at the resistance movement and the French resisters. He also defends homosexuals and has defended a female German terrorist: This is the man who is already criticizing Ivorian justice. He too will quickly become aware that neither lies nor blackmail have the force of law in our country.

Having said this, some questions remain to be asked:

1) How did Emmanuel Dioulo manage to escape?

2) Who were his accomplices?

3) Will the trial take place despite the absence of the protagonist?

Pending the revelations and answers which the competent authorities may give us concerning the Cogexim managing director's flight from Ivory Coast, we repeat that this shameful escape is, in itself, a confession of guilt by Mr Dioulo. It is also the proof that Ivory Coast is a state which respects the rule of law, human rights, and the judicial process. Examples abound of governments that would have pursued and arrested the main figure in a case like the one between the BNDA and Cogexim, whether or not the man was a parliamentarian and in spite of the immunity protecting him! In certain countries, therefore, Emmanuel Dioulo, who wanted to make people believe that there was a "plot" to destroy him, would not have enjoyed a minute of freedom despite the parliamentary immunity he claimed. And he knows this.

Despite this escape, which proves his cowardice, justice will follow its course in all serenity. The court will try the accomplices of Cogexim's managing director and will judge the case on the strength of the available documents. Emmanuel Dioulo, who claimed that he could manipulate both the media and public opinion and who loudly voiced his desire — we can now see that it was a false desire — to let the truth come out into the open, has let an opportunity slip by! What a beautiful platform and what an excellent supporting voice he would have had during his trial to proclaim his innocence and honesty and unravel before his fellow citizens the plot hatched against him! What a missed opportunity to prove his good faith by paying the BNDA the 7 billion francs he was ordered to pay by Judge Couloud! Being a chivalrous man, he preferred to escape and leave his accomplices to assume his responsibilities before the court. Honest as he is, he continues to buy with our farmers' embezzled money the conscience of other people in other countries. He is courageous using lies and blackmail; nevertheless, he will find out in the end that neither he nor his accomplices will hinder the continuation of the financial reorganization campaign in all sectors. He and the others will know that slander, intimidation, and blackmail are of no use and that, on the contrary, those who use such weapons will be severely punished.

NIGERIA

Buhari Orders Police To Crack Down on Smugglers

AB280900 Lagos Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The Nigerian police have been directed to intensify the war against smugglers and other antisocial elements. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, gave the order in Yola while addressing a combined parade of the Army and the police. He reminded the police that recent legislation gave them absolute powers to deal with criminals and their collaborators. Gen Buhari pointed out that if contraband were allowed into the country, they would have (?adverse) effects on the growth of the nation's industry and Nigerians would be denied job opportunities.

The head of state has since returned to Lagos at the end of his 4-day working tour of Gongola State.

Governor Dispels Rumors on War Preparations

AB271822 Lagos NAN in English 1821 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Calabar, Mar 27 (NAN) — The Cross River military governor, Col Dan Archibong, today in Calabar dispelled rumours in the state that the country was preparing to go to war with a neighbouring country.

In a press briefing, Col Archibong said that there was no truth in the rumour that the Cameroonians burnt down the Nigerian flag in the border area and hence "we are preparing to go to war with them." Col Archibong said that "the truth of the matter is that there is [words indistinct] a joint military exercises within the state in order to test the country's ability and preparedness to defend herself from any external aggressor." He said "it became necessary to conduct the exercise in the state because it provides the necessary topography, logistics and other infrastructural facilities adequate for a joint military exercises." The governor said that the concentration of military men and weapons in the state was mainly for the joint exercise and appealed to the citizens to adhere to any instruction that might be given during the exercise in the interest of their safety.

Speaking during the press conference, the chairman of the subcommittee on information and public relations, Lt Col Wilcox, said that there was no cause for alarm because of the military presence in the state and urged the indigenes to offer their maximum cooperations to the soldier. He said that the exercise was expected to last six days and that details of the exercise would be communicated to the press on March 31, 1985 by the director of the exercise.

Soviet Envoy on Aid to African Countries

AB271710 Lagos NAN in English 1658 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Jos, March 27 (NAN) — Mr Vladimir Snegyrev, the Soviet ambassador to Nigeria, said in Jos yesterday that his country would adopt any policy acceptable to African countries to help bring an end to the apartheid system in South Africa.

Speaking on an NTA [Nigerian Television Authority], Jos, current affairs programme, Mr Snegyrev urged African leaders to help initiate new moves to end the racist policy. He remarked that although the Soviet Union was more radical in its decision against apartheid, not all the African countries at the UN General Assembly supported sanctions against South Africa.

He criticised the U.S. for its continued involvement with and support for the apartheid regime, adding that the Soviet Union would continue to give military assistance to African countries to protect their territorial integrity.

Mr Snegyrev said that the Soviet Union country would increase it importation of goods from Nigeria, especially cocoa beans, to maintain the balance of trade between the two countries.

TOGO

Cabinet Approves Ratification of International Pacts

AB271614 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The Cabinet met this morning at the Presidential Palace under the chairmanship of General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People [RPT] and president of the Republic. During the meeting the Cabinet examined and adopted two ordinances and seven decrees.

The first ordinance authorizes the ratification of the agreement on the creation of the Togo-Yugoslavia Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, which was signed in Belgrade on 4 October 1984. Provisions of the agreement will permit the Governments of Yugoslavia and Togo to determine, after intensive studies, the contents of their cooperation in the economic, scientific, and technical sectors, and will further contribute toward the consolidation of the fruitful relations between Yugoslavia and Togo.

The second ordinance authorizes the ratification of the protocol on the amendment of Article 3/10 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, which was signed in Montreal on 10 May 1984. Under the amendment, each nation should abstain from using arms against civilian aircraft in flight and, in the case of interception, the life of persons on board these aircraft and the security of the aircraft should not be put in danger. The ratification of this protocol by our country once again demonstrates the efforts made by the founding chairman of the RPT and the Togolese Government in the search for ways and means to guarantee peace and security in the world.

ANGOLA

ANGOP Commemorates Victory of 27 March 1976

MB280903 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 27 Mar 85

[ANGOP commentary: "The Carnival of Victory — A Festival of the New Man"]

[Text] Today is a festive day in Angola. It is a great festive day, a day for celebration. There are days in the history of peoples that transcend the justified national pride of the people who made them important through heroic deeds, deeds honored in the history of other peoples, continents, and the whole of mankind. This is the case with 27 March, the day of the carnival of victory, proclaimed by late President Angostinho Neto in a genial decision showing his unwavering faith in the consolidation of the great victory achieved on 27 March 1976, and in the certainty of the revolution's decisive victory.

Angola's carnival of victory does not merely commemorate the victory in the second war of national liberation on 27 March 1976, when the last of the South African invaders and of its Angolan lackeys hurriedly crossed the southern Cunene border to take shelter in the terrorist bases that they still maintain in occupied Namibia. Twenty-seven March represents the definite destruction of the myth of the invincibility of the South African racist Army and of the mercenaries that imperialism sent to drown the newborn Angolan revolution in blood. After crushing the myth of the invincibility of Pretoria and the haughtiness of the apartheid promoters, all of Africa saw itself mirrored in the heroic victory of the Angolan people and the dignity regained after several centuries of colonization.

But the greatest lesson of 27 March 1976 goes deeper. It attests to Africa and the world the ability of all exploited men and women to join and fight for truth and social justice, for the building of a new man, regardless of creed or race. This great example, this lesson of utmost historic meaning, was accomplished through the common will of the Angolans and Cubans who together fought, died, and conquered the invading armies, the lackeys, and the mercenaries hired in Europe and the United States. Today, these Angolans and Cubans have consolidated Angolan independence and the revolution.

The Angolans and Cubans who sacrificed themselves on the immense battleground which imperialism established in the then young People's Republic of Angola not only dispelled the myth of invincibility of the racist army, of the European and American mercenaries, but also confirmed the indestructibility of the resolve of the Angolan people, which remains today.

From the blood shed by Angolans and Cubans who side by side [words indistinct] Agostinhno Neto to the cause of the liberation of the peoples who are dominated and oppressed all over the world, also blossomed into a new flower, a blood-red flower, which is an undying monument to internationalism and which demonstrates the superiority of the new man [words indistinct] among the free people of liberated mankind. [Words indistinct] ideology that unites people and not geography.

Today, the carnival of the victory is a great festive day — a day for celebration. In Angola today, we commemorate the definitive victory and triumph of our popular and democratic revolution. Above all, we commemorate the victory of internationalism and the new man now present in Angola.

Power Supply to Luanda Reestablished 27 Mar

MB280759 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The normal supply of electricity through the Cambambe-Luanda supply line was reestablished yesterday. The (Sonefe) management reestablished the normal supply to Luanda about 0745 yesterday, after several days work on the line. [illegible] the power supply disruption, every effort was made to [illegible] the distribution of electricity to homes and enterprises.

In order to supply the city with electricity [illegible] we to apply with rigor and discipline the measures taken by the (Sonefe) and (Edel) enterprises. The complete establishment of power from the Cambambe plant to Luanda constitutes another victory for the Angolan people, who are grateful to all those who helped resolve the problem.

Luanda Cites FAPLA Successes Against UNITA

Support Base Destroyed

MB241128 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Another support base of the UNITA counterrevolutionaries has been destroyed by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola in the Samba Caju region of Cuanza Norte Province. The regional radio station of the National Radio of Angola has further reports on this:

[Begin unidentified announcer recording] The destruction of the enemy base occurred during a search and destroy operation against the puppet gangs which were operating in the area. In the operation, 22 gangsters were killed, 1 gangster was taken prisoner, 90 huts were destroyed, and 5 antitank rockets, 3 G-3's, 1 hunting gun, 5 Claymores, 5 AT and 1 [word indistinct] mines, 4 grenade launchers, 1 detonating cable, 22 hand grenades of different makes, 16 haversacks, 11 blankets, 10 trailers, 128 different military rank stripes of the puppet gang, 16 dry cells, various uniforms, various documents, and 6,090 Portuguese escudos were captured.

It is worth stressing that in their helpless flight, the UNITA puppet gangs attack defenseless civilians, destroying their houses, snatching their goods, and ambushing lonely trucks.

Our forces are continuing the hot pursuit operation against them. This is what we have been able to gather from military sources. [end recording]

59 UNITA Members Killed

MB261523 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Our defense and security forces annihilated 59 UNITA criminals during offensive operations carried out on 12 and 13 March in the Cuanza Sul, Cuando Cubango, and Benguela Provinces. During the operations, another 2 UNITA bandits were captured and large quantities of war materiel were seized.

KUP Cites UNITA Communiques on Battle Successes

FAPLA Soldiers, Cubans Killed

MB260951 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 26 Mar (KUP) — It has been confirmed that 38 soldiers of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola and 7 Cubans have been killed in the war in Angola's Kwanza Norte Province. A total of 41 automatic weapons, 4 submachine guns, 3 RPG-7's, 2 SG communication radios, and various other equipment were seized. This news was announced in a communique signed by the chief of general staff and dated 18 March 1985.

17 Troops Killed in Ambush

MB270743 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 27 Mar (KUP) — A total of 17 People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola soldiers have been killed in Angola's Cunene Province.

On 16 March 1985, a contingent of FAPLA and People's Defense Organization forces traveling from Mongua were ambushed by the UNITA forces 29 km southeast of Xangongo. It has been confirmed that 17 FAPLA soldiers died and a number of others were wounded. Enormous quantities of war materiel were captured. The UNITA forces suffered no dead or wounded.

Briefs

Envoys From Spain, Poland— Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, received the credentials of the new Spanish and Polish ambassadors in Luanda yesterday. The Angolan head of state accredited Jan Bojko as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Polish People's Republic to Angola and (Angelo Fernandez Majambro) as ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain. Present at the ceremony was Afonso Van Dunem "Mbinda," foreign minister, and other government officials of the People's Republic of Angola. [Text] [*Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Mar 85 MB*]

BOTSWANA

Official Denies Anticipation of Wave of RSA Refugees

MB271156 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The undersecretary in the Office of the President, Mr (Foster Kokorwe), has refuted allegations by the weekly *BUSINESS GAZETTE* newspaper that the government was anticipating an influx of refugees from South Africa due to the recent unrest in that country. Mr (Kokorwe) told our radio news desk a short while ago that the government could not anticipate such an influx because the ultimate destination of refugees could not speculated on. He also said that he was unaware of any South African leaving their country due to the unrest, and even worse [as heard], they had not yet arrived in Botswana.

The *BUSINESS GAZETTE* suggested today that the latest unrest in South Africa could prompt a refugee influx similar to that following the 1976 Soweto uprisings.

LESOTHO

Democratic Alliance Lists New Executive Board

MB280944 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] A report carried by Radio Lesotho on Tuesday on the expulsion of Mr C.D. Molapo from the Executive Committee of the Basotho Democratic Alliance [BDA] has been confirmed in the publication of the new committee of the BDA in the latest issue of *MOELETSI OA BASOTHO*. Mr Molapo has been expelled from the presidency of the alliance and not the chairmanship as previously reported.

The new Executive Committee of the alliance, a political body formed last year by South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha in Pretoria, stands as follows:

President, Mr (S. Mojane); vice president, Mr (J. Mohale); chairman, Mr Phuka Chaolane; vice chairman, Mr (N. Dibili); secretary general, Mr (Thomas Nufulu); vice secretary general, Mr (M. Makhaba); and treasurer, Mr (J. Mokheni).

Informed sources say that the total exclusion of Mr Molapo from the Executive Committee may not receive the blessing of the BDA sponsors in Pretoria, as Mr C.D. Molapo was the main link between Pretoria and the BDA. It is generally believed that should Mr Molapo be successfully excluded from the Executive Committee, Mr Phuka Chaolane will be the main liaison between the alliance and South African Security Police and government officials.

As reported on Tuesday, it is expected that Mr C.D. Molapo will make a last-ditch attempt retain his leadership of the alliance. As the alliance remains without a following, it is believed that the elections of the Executive Committee takes place among the eight members of the executive, including the expelled president.

MALAWI

President Banda on Relations With Kenya

MB221722 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Mar 85

[Text] His excellency the life president ngwazi, Dr Kamuzu Banda, has said that the common task for Malawi and Kenya should be to consolidate unity and solidarity among the African countries. The life president said this today at the State House in Zomba, when he received the letters of commission from the new Kenyan high commissioner to Malawi, Mr Alfred Machayo. The life president said the two countries should consolidate the unity and solidarity by strictly adhering to the principles of the OAU and the United Nations. The ngwazi also said that the two organizations stood for the good of all mankind based on mutual respect, territorial integrity, and peaceful settlement of disputes.

The life president noted that it was pleasing that Kenya and Malawi continued to share similar concepts and ideals to uphold the principles of human dignity, justice, freedom, and equality for mankind. His excellency the life president then spoke of the historical bilateral relations which the two countries have enjoyed for decades, adding that such relations should be maintained for the good of the people of the two countries.

For his part, the new Kenyan high commissioner, Mr Machayo, praised the cordial relations between Malawi and Kenya and called on the two countries to continue cooperating in communication, commerce, and many other fields for the benefit of the two countries. Mr Machayo is based in Lusaka, Zambia.

MAURITIUS

Prime Minister Jugnauth Visits France

For Johannesburg reportage on the visit to France by Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth, including his meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 28 March Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Meets With Malawi Transport Minister

MB271135 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] President Samora Machel has reaffirmed Mozambique's desire to strengthen cooperation with Malawi. President Samora Machel was speaking in Maputo yesterday when he was receiving Malawi's minister of transport and communications, W B Deleza, who was on an official visit to Mozambique.

During the meeting with President Samora Machel, Mr Deleza spoke about the efforts that the Mozambican Government is taking to normalize the rail traffic between the two countries. He said these efforts were having a result.

Malawi uses Mozambique's northern port of Nacala for exporting and importing its goods. Yesterday the Malawian delegation held talks with Mozambican authorities. The Mozambican delegation at the talks was headed by the minister of ports and land transport, Macantara Santos. The talks centered on bilateral cooperation.

Mr Deleza left Mozambique for Malawi this morning.

Machel Receives Niger Minister, Kountche Message

MB270842 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] President Samora Machel on Monday received a message in Maputo from Niger's president, Seyni Kountche, dealing with inter-African cooperation issues. The message from the Niger head of state was carried by Minister of Information [illegible] traveled to our country as a special envoy of that [illegible]

Maputo City Official Warns of Sabotage

MB271221 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguse 1030 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Aurelio Manhica, member of the Central Committee and secretary for defense of the Maputo city committee, recently chaired a meeting with the residents of Matola-Gare wards. He insisted on the need for unity among the Matola-Gare residents because, as he said, the enemy has infiltrated the area from where it carries out acts of sabotage on the power lines supplying energy to the capital of the country.

NOTICIAS on RSA Action Against Counterfeiters

MB271720 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Mar 85 p 6

[Editorial: "The Boundary of the Facts"]

[Text] Counterfeiting currency and trading in contraband are common law crimes in any country of the world. These are activities which threaten the stability and security of any nation.

The discovery of a counterfeit and contraband network in South Africa cannot stand on its own as proof of zeal by the regime of the Republic of South Africa to fulfill the Nkomati Accord. That is to say that the regime has not detained the counterfeiters to safeguard the accord. Had there been Nkomati or not, the South Africans would have acted against the criminals in the defense of their own national interests. The South Africa police have acted first of all to protect the South African rule of law, the South African currency, and the interests of South Africa.

The announcement of the discovery coincided with the anniversary of the accord. However, some of the facts disclosed in Johannesburg on Saturday have been known for several months. Elements who fled from the armed bandit ranks had already been alerted about the plundering and contraband trade in jewels and ivory. A number of statements had referred to the violations of the air space of the People's Republic of Mozambique from South Africa.

At the exclusive meeting where these facts were disclosed, reference was made of the discovery of "a gang linked to the armed bandits." This is an artificial distinction. There is not on the one hand the gang, and on the other the armed bandits. The gang is part of the bandits, who act and conspire abroad against the People's Republic of Mozambique. Counterfeiting and contraband are not a strange phenomena to banditry. They are not merely supporting actions. They are part of the banditry as well.

In light of its nature and purposes, the aggression against the Mozambican sovereignty can only be carried out through crime and the breach of law. This aggression has always offended the basic principles of coexistence among nations. Passiveness by a country that harbors terrorism always ends up turning against the interests of that very country. This is what happened in the case of the bandits who counterfeited currency and were involved in contraband in South Africa. That is the case of all criminals and terrorists who contine to benefit from tolerance and connivance of the countries from where they operate. However, for the Mozambicans, it is difficult to accept that just certain aspects are part of the whole issue.

The Mozambicans expect that the disclosure of the discovery by the South African police could be the starting point of a vigorous and effective compliance of the obligations undertaken on the banks of Nkomati River in March last year. After all, only hours after the police discoveries were disclosed, another act of sabotage on the power lines carrying energy from South Africa to Maputo took place. And the sabotage took place only 2 km from the border.

MNR Says 515 Troops Killed 20 Feb-20 Mar

PA230431 Paris AFP in English 0429 GMT 23 Mar 85

[Text] Lisbon, March 23 (AFP) — The Mozambican rebel movement MNR killed 515 government troops, wounded 539 and captured 63 in operations in five provinces between February 20 and March 20, according to an MNR communique issued here Friday night. It said [words indistinct] they destroyed 237 military vehicles, 17 armoured cars and 63 tanks.

NAMIBIA

Further on MPC Transitional Government Proposal

MB271940 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 27 Mar 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Another step has been taken in Namibia toward the setting up of some kind of internal settlement bypassing the United Nations plans for independence under Resolution 435. Members of the internal parties that oppose the SWAPO liberation movement and make up the South African inspired Multiparty Conference [MPC] have presented their own plan to South Africa's State President P.W Botha. Namibia is currently ruled by decree by the South African appointed administrator general. Robin White asked Gwen Lister in Windhoek what the MPC's package was.

[Begin recording] [Lister] Well, basically, the package is for a transitional government, or government of national unity, as MPC leaders have referred to it, and it practically makes provision for the takeover of all legislative and executive functions presently held by the South African administrator general in Namibia. In other words, they claim it will be virtually autonomous with the exception of certain functions, crucial functions, such as security and defense, which will remain in the hands of South Africa.

The plan also makes provision for an executive body known as the Ministers Council, a legislative body — the National Assembly — and a Constitutional Council which will be given 18 months in which to draw up a constitution for an independent Namibia.

[White] Are there going to be elections — fresh elections?

[Lister] The Multiparty Conference said there would be no election, certainly not for this government. They claim that this is going to be a transitional government. In other words, it is just to carry the country toward what they claim will be internationally recognized independence. They said there is no need for elections at this stage. They have been on record several times in the past as saying that the country is too divided for elections presently, and so they are going to implement this government basically on an imposed basis. There will be no elections.

[White] So, who is actually going to be in the government, they themselves?

[Lister] Well, basically it will just consist of member parties — the six member parties of the Multiparty Conference. Moses Katjiuongua, the president of the faction of the South West African National Union, who chaired the press conference today, reiterated, however, that the door is still open to other parties who wish to join the Multiparty Conference in an interim government.

[White] Now, do you see this as a new step toward UDI [unilateral declaration of independence]?

[Lister] Well, certainly, although Moses Katjiuongua at the press conference today denied that their government will act toward a UDI, he also did say that it would be necessary that this transitional period should be linked with an independent state. Now, he didn't go into too much detail on the question of an independent state, but he said on this question there would be negotiations with other parties concerned.

[White] Now, presumably, there's no chance at all that SWAPO is going to have anything to do with it.

[Lister] Certainly not SWAPO and a few other political parties in Namibia and including, of course, the Council of Churches. Already, SWAPO's acting president in Namibia, Nathaniel Maxvilili, has said that this move is really nothing new. He said that for as long as South Africa refuses to leave Namibian soil, the people could expect such imposed government. Most of the political parties outside the MPC still call for the implementation of Resolution 435. [end recording]

SOUTH AFRICA

P.W. Botha Calls for Limiting Debate on Killings

MB271542 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1405 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Speech by State President P.W. Botha to joint session of Parliament in House of Assembly in Cape Town — live]

[Excerpts] Mr Speaker, I wish to thank you for this opportunity of addressing members of Parliament on a matter of great concern to all of us, but before so I have to inform Parliament of a tragic accident that happened this afternoon.

Mr Speaker, I now turn to the matter on which I wish to address Parliament. When I accepted office as prime minister, and subsequently state president, I reaffirmed that I would continue with the task of improving attitudes and relations between the various communities and peoples of South Africa. I committed myself to this task notwithstanding great opposition. When I addressed Parliament on 21 January 1985, I indicated the road ahead for South Africa.

Responsible governments in the West responded by accepting my sincerity. Responding leaders in Africa have likewise responded favorably to that speech. Indeed, all responsible leaders in South Africa have indicated their willingness and desire to explore that path together with us. They have acknowledged that we have introduced new eras to South African politics which can create opportunities for all the leaders of South Africa to come together, to discuss, and bring to fruition our vision of the future.

Mr Speaker, it is ironic that now at exactly the time that we have taken new initiatives which encompass cooperation on so many levels and in so many spheres, people of ill intent instigate demonstrations and marches which result in arson, violence, and death. Innocent women and children have been among the victims. This does not surprise me. It saddens me.

It saddens me also that certain people under the guise of moral and religious convictions should take the lead in fermenting disobedience, violence, and destruction. They clearly do not want peace and stability. They are not in favor of peace through a peaceful process of reform. They do not want progress and prosperity for all. They want to see the country go up in flames. Their deliberate actions have caused the deaths of innocent people. They want to bring South Africa to its knees. They want to advance South Africa's isolation. They solicit outside support for South Africa's destruction. They want chaos to reign in order that the international community and the United Nations can condemn South Africa as a threat to world peace. They have embarked upon this course at the behest of foreign powers so as to assist them to achieve the diabolical aims.

Mr Speaker, I want to state clearly and categorically here today that they will not succeed. [applause] Their schemes are transparent for all of us to see. Responsible South Africans reject revolutionary activities and outside interference in our internal affairs. I have committed myself and those South Africans of all population groups who have indicated their willingness to cooperate through a process of positive reform, but at the same time, I am committed to maintaining law and order and stability in our country. I have already given instructions for appropriate steps to be taken to restore and maintain law and order. There are in our society certain fundamental truths which are not matters for debate. They are facts. I have no reason to believe that there is any party represented in this Parliament which does not subscribe to truths of this nature.

Firstly, no person or institution is above the law or may act as if this were the case and go unpunished in accordance with the due process of law. The law is also indivisible. In essence, this means no more and no less that no one may choose to obey only those laws whether of the common or statutory law variety which he considers to be just and equitable. Laws which at any given point in time are considered as being not in harmony with society's concepts of fairness and justice can be amended or abolished only by the appropriate legislative authority established by rules of law and in accordance with the rules of law which define it in its power.

In the words of a learned judge of the division of the Supreme Court of our country, I quote, the courts of this country have for over a century acted fairly with competency and honesty and independently of improper influence. They do so today and will do so in future. In this regard, the courts of no other countries surpass our courts and very very few equal them, unquote.

The same holds true of all the judges who served the various divisions of our Supreme Court. The highest legislative and executive authorities of this country, subscribing as they do to the rule of law, should be a matter of principle a shining and visible example of respect for the sanctity of law. This means that we must be seen to respect not only the letter of the law, but also the spirit thereof.

Against this background I would like to refer to the recent tragic incidents at Uitenhage and related subsequent occurrences. I will do so, Mr Speaker, with all the restraint, compassion, forebearance, and sincerity at my command. I pray that they will not be interpreted as weakness.

I have appointed a respected judge of the Supreme Court as a commission of inquiry to investigate and report on the factual circumstances of the incident itself as a matter of urgency. I have no doubt that he will do so in the tradition of impartiality and objectivity to which I have referred. You have, Mr Speaker, given a ruling in your wisdom to the effect that the subject matter of that inquiry may be discussed, subject, however, to certain limitations. I understood your ruling to be that in compliance with the Commissions Act No 847 and the regulations which were published in *GOVERNMENT GAZETTE* No 9674 of 22 March 1985. No member is to debate the subject matter of the judicial commission's investigation in a manner that may prejudice influence or anticipate the proceedings or findings of the commission.

I now consider it to be in the best interests of our country that we respect not only the letter of your rulings, but also the spirit thereof. For this reason, and for the sake of peace, and for the sake of our commitment to this creation of a climate of goodwill, I now appeal to all honorable members to refrain from discussing the matter referred to until such time as we receive the commission's report, following which ample opportunity for such discussion will be accorded to honorable members.

Since prior discussion undoubtedly brings with it the risk of wandering into the area of the commission's investigations, and may otherwise aggravate rather than contain and improve the security situation, I wish to suggest to Parliament that the judicious course would be for Parliament not to address this matter in any fashion until we have at our disposal the commission's report.

The judge concerned has already indicated that the investigation and report will be dealt with expeditiously. We owe this to our country and all its peoples. I am confident that I will have your cooperation in this endeavor.

I turn to another matter. There are laws on our statute books which are designed to ensure that society at large experiences peace and that people can go about their daily business unmolested. There is also a law which is designed to protect not only the premises but also the persons of members of Parliament and its dignity. There is an urgent need for me to request honorable members to insist that these laws be respected by all.

Whether I agree with various political demands that are being made by various interested groups is not the issue. I am committed to a program of reform designed to broaden democracy and to improve the living conditions of all South Africans regardless of race, color, or creed. If I am to succeed, if my government and those of us who are gathered here are to succeed in making this country a better place to live in, it is of paramount importance that all laws be obeyed. Our responsibility in this respect is to afford South Africa the opportunity to succeed.

Mr Speaker, I want to say here today in very simple terms that I and the government accept that there is room for a very wide range of political viewpoints in South Africa.

We have some very fine traditions in this regard in this country; traditions which virtually no other country has in Africa. One of these traditions is that all people, regardless of their race, color, or creed, are free to hold, pursue, and promote their diverse political views without any interference from the government. The only condition, and I do not think that a reasonable person can argue with me on this, is that the pursuit of political objectives should be done in a peaceful and civilized way. The maintenance of law, order, and stability are crucial for the attainment of these objectives. With the necessary goodwill and determination, this country will continue to be the land of good hope.

I therefore appeal to all South Africans of whatever political pursuasion, who believe in the future of our country, to work together toward the peaceful resolution of our differences so that justice and fairness to all may triumph. I appeal to those who are prepared to accept the goodwill and good intentions of the government to help us resist and neutralize the efforts of those who wish to destroy rather than to build. I remain convinced that it is us, South Africans, who will resolve our problems. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

Party Leaders on Speech

MB271944 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Mrs Helen Suzman of the Progressive Federal Party said she would not comply with the state president's request to halt the debate over the incidents in Uitenhage. She said the matter was not sub judice and that debate on the matter was continuing outside Parliament. Mrs Suzman said at the resumption of the debate on the second reading of the own affairs budget that Parliament could not ignore its traditions or responsibilities in the discussion of such an important matter.

The first speaker from the National Party in the separate session, Mr Willem Hefer of Standerton, said his party would comply with the state president's request and would not continue with the debate on Uitenhage.

Mr Frank le Roux of the Conservative Party said in the House of Assembly that his party was not impressed with what he called Mr Botha's attempts at dramatization. Mr le Roux said the coalition government was trying to conceal the dilemma it was facing, with certain members refusing to bow to the will of the state president, who had refused to remove the minister of law and order from office.

Mr Vause Raw said the New Republic Party [NRP] would comply with the state president's request to halt the debate on the Uitenhage incidents. Mr Raw said in the House of Assembly that the NRP had announced before Mr Botha's speech that it would await the outcome of the commission of inquiry.

The Labor Party in the House of Representatives has appealed to all South Africans to heed the state president's call for peace and stability which was made this afternoon. The party said in a statement released in Cape Town that it was aware of the many frustrations which had to be endured every day. The party had, nevertheless, agreed to walk along the road of reform, and along this road there was no place for senseless violence from any source. The statement said the party realized that change had to come but that it would not happen overnight.

The chairman of the House of Delegates, Mr (Rahman Bhana), called on its members to heed the state president's call, because it was in the national interest. Mr Botha's appeal for cooperation for peaceful political reform was supported by the leaders of the two main parties in the house.

The chairman of the Minister's Council and leader of the National People's Party, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said the country should respond with one voice for peaceful change so that there would ultimately be full political participation at all levels of government. The leader of the Solidarity Party, Dr J.N. Reddy, said his party would give the state president his full support to speed up the process of reform.

Boesak Calls for Removal of Botha Government
MB280732 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Allan Boesak has called for the removal of President Botha and his government. Speaking at a meeting in Cape Town last night, the world church leader said South Africans do not want the president's condolences, but they want him removed. Dr Boesak also told the crowd of about 2,000 people that there was a time when mourning should stop.

[Begin Boesak recording] Let us wake up from mourning and establish peace and justice in this country, which is our land. Let us wake up from mourning and let us fight for a South Africa where the horrors that we have heard about, and that we have witnessed, will never again happen. Let us wake up from mourning, and let us fight for a land in which our children can have peace, so that they will not die long before they have begun to live. [end recording]

Buthelezi Says Nonviolent Change Still Possible
MB280738 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] The chief minister of the South African national state of kwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, says South Africa still has the propensity to change and to change through nonviolent means. He said during his policy speech at Ulundi that this did not mean he has softened his attitude towards apartheid.

He was in fact still fighting all aspects of it, but he said he was seeing signs that the black struggle for liberation had not been in vain. Black opposition to apartheid was beginning to make this system patently unworkable.

Chief Buthelezi said it would be criminal for black South Africans to have labored for so long to bring about peaceful change and then to deny whites the opportunity of changing, when they were showing signs of readiness.

Deputy Foreign Minister Blames ANC for Rioting
MB281005 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0958 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Pretoria, March 28, SAPA — The deputy foreign minister, Mr Louis Nel, today told a group of foreign diplomats that the ANC was behind the recent months of township rioting, which he said had been aimed primarily against moderate blacks. Mr Nel said in Pretoria that although the government was committed to the expansion of democracy among blacks, any potentially successful democratic structures were being thwarted by the rioters and their inciters.

Yesterday, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, told a joint sitting of the three houses of parliament that he had taken steps to see that law and order were maintained in the country, where township unrest has escalated since last September.

Today Mr Nel said: "There is incontrovertible evidence of an orchestrated attempt by forces from beyond our border, joined by radical elements inside the country, to politicise certain target groups for their own purposes. The ANC is behind this."

Mr Nel told the more than 50 diplomats and overseas journalists gathered at the union buildings that the aim of the rioters was to make the country ungovernable and to bring about a revolutionary situation.

"I wish to emphasise that support for the ANC and for the perpetrators of violence in South Africa is support for the interests of the Soviet Union."

In contrast to the blacks who had shown "a willingness to work towards peaceful reform," he added, "the instigators (of unrest) reject negotiation and consultation. They know that to succeed in reaching their goal of total power they cannot allow the emergence of a moderate black majority."

However, Mr Nel said, moderate blacks had become the primary targets of rioters. Eight black councillors and policemen had been murdered during township unrest, which has left more than 300 people dead in the past seven months. Over 100 councillors had been attacked and 147 forced to resign, Mr Nel said, "for fear of their lives and damage to property."

Langa Inquiry Chairman Visits Site of Killings
MB271041 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1034 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Uitenhage, March 27, SAPA — The chairman of the commission of inquiry into last Thursday's Langa shootings near Uitenhage, Mr Justice Donald Kannemeyer, was surrounded by curious but peaceful township dwellers today, when he held an inspection in loco at the site. The crowd gathered slowly at first but later lined the street on either side of the judge's entourage as counsel for various interested parties pointed out spots on which evidence would be led in court later.

The judge, dressed in a dark blazer, pin-striped trousers and a bowler hat, said he had come to Langa township to see the area for himself. The crowd, which at times completely surrounded the party of legal representatives, MP's, and press, was subdued throughout and there were cries of "order" from some of the bystanders when noise erupted at one stage.

Police, who arrived in two caspir armoured vehicles, stood at 100 m intervals in front of the crowd. Some of the officers were armed with shotguns, others with only small arms, while the rest were unarmed.

Mr Justice Kannemeyer and his entourage and the press contingent arrived in two buses with wire mesh over the windows and doors.

Mr Chris Jansen, counsel for the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, was the first to ask witnesses to point out various spots relating to the incident. He asked Lieutenant John Fouche

and Warrant Officer J.W. Pentz, the officers in charge of the two caspir vehicles involved in the incident, to point out where the vehicles had been at the time of the shooting.

The officers indicated that the two caspirs were parked in a V formation pointing toward the main area of the township. W/O Pentz said a mob had come over a hill about 500 m away, while others had joined the main group from houses on either side. Lieutenant Eouche said he had fired a warning shot and ordered the crowd to disperse when they were about 50 m away from the police vehicles. He had then climbed on top of his vehicle and again ordered the crowd to disperse. They paid no attention. When the mob was about 10 m away he fired another warning shot.

He was asked at what stage the first shot was fired directly at the crowd, and he estimated the distance at about seven meters.

Officers Describe Events

MB281002 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0943 GMT 28 Mar 85

[Text] Uitenhage, March 28, SAPA — The commander of one of the caspir police vehicles involved in last Thursday's Langa violence today described the events that led to the fatal shooting of 19 people.

Warrant Officer Jacobus Wouter Pentz told the commission of inquiry into the incident that last Thursday he and six men armed with shotguns had driven to Langa township, where they discovered a crowd of about 250 people standing in the road shouting and screaming. W/O Pentz said he stopped the vehicle and asked a man who appeared to be the leader of the crowd what the meeting was about. He replied that the people were going to a funeral.

The crowd, meanwhile, continued shouting, waving their fists in the air, as well as stones, pipes, and pieces of wood. Some also had knives. W/O Pentz told the commission, chaired by Mr Justice Donald Kannemeyer, that he had told the man that funerals had been forbidden by a magisterial order.

The man said he knew this and swore at the policemen, telling them to go away, and saying "you won't stop us today." At that point, another man of about 18 years of age, moved forward and gestured with a long knife, drawing it across his throat.

The group grew repidly and a section of the crowd joined hands and began moving towards the vehicle.

W/O Pentz said he realised he was in danger of being cut off by people coming from the side and behind the vehicle, and he retreated to a point further down the main road leading into the township.

He stopped again and once more spoke to the leader, telling him that the crowd must disperse and that he was involved in an unlawful assembly. The man gestured rudely with his hand.

W/O Pentz said that at this stage there were about 1000 people advancing toward the vehicle along the main road and that people were "coming from all directions" to join the group.

The warrant officer said he moved the vehicle further away from the crowd which was still screaming and brandishing stones and other objects and repeatedly singing a rhyme (deuntjie) which W/O Pentz said was translated by of his men as meaning "today we are going to kill the white people in the town."

The vehicle moved to a spot on the approach to the township under a hail of stones thrown by the crowd. W/O Pentz said he then turned the caspir around to face the crowd.

At this point, Lieutenant John Fouche, W/O Pentz's commanding officer, arrived in another caspir with reinforcements after being summoned by radio earlier. The two vehicles were drawn up in a V formation across the road and Lieutenant Fouche climbed out of the hatch of his vehicle and shouted to the leader of the crowd that they must go back.

By this time the crowd had grown to about 4000 and W/O Pentz told the commission that as far as he could see to the top of the hill in the main part of the township, people were approaching.

When the crowd was about 10 m from the police vehicles, Lieutenant Fouche fired a shot from a R1 rifle into the gravel next to the tarred road. Before the shot was fired, a number of stones had been thrown at the policemen, who were in the vehicles, armed and ready for action.

When the lieutenant fired the shot into the ground the leader of the crowd pulled an object that looked like a bottle from inside his coat, and also a hard black book. W/O Pentz testified that people were also approaching from behind the vehicles.